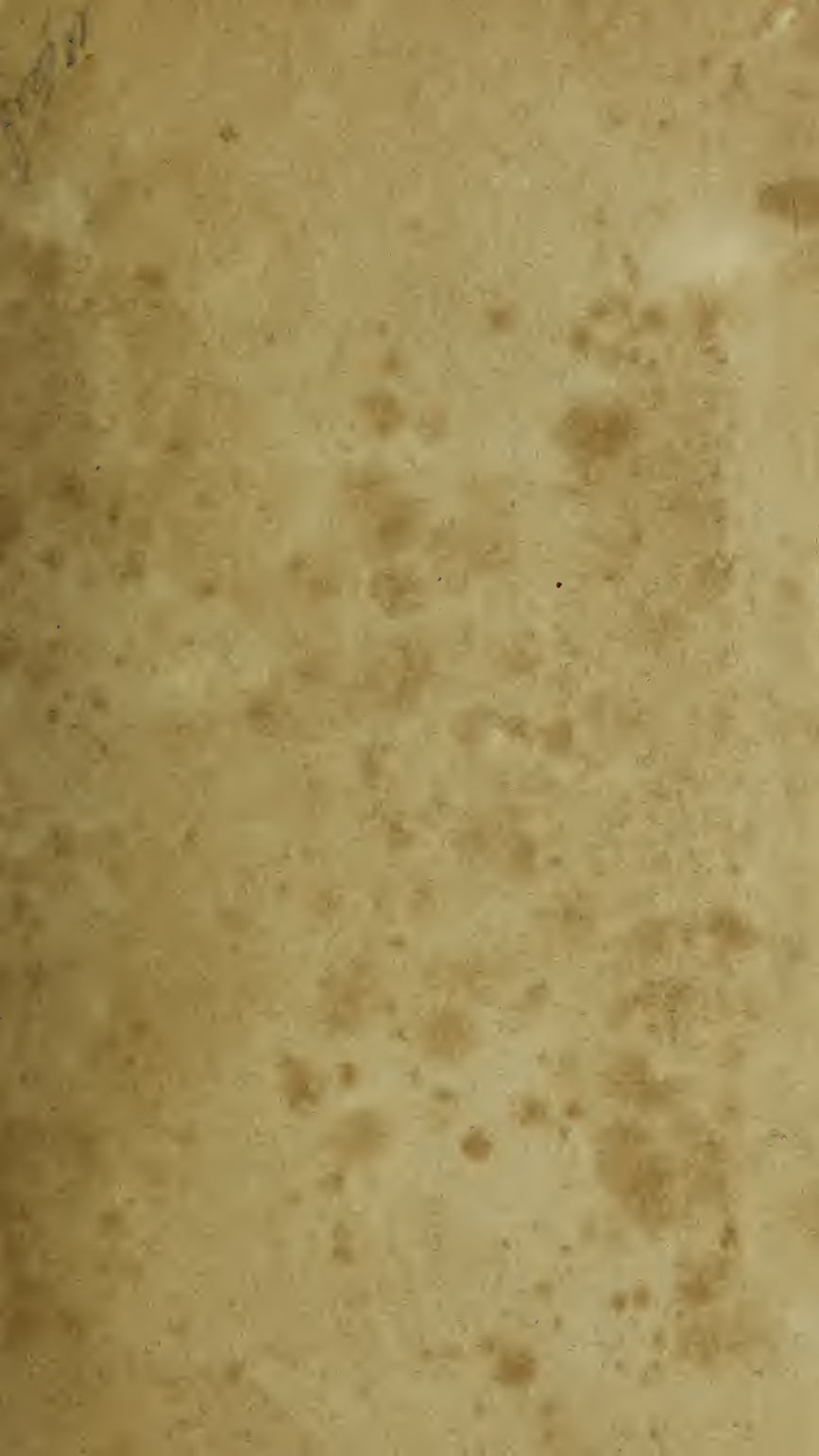




Jack Martin Miller











52.x. 27.C.

A  
HAND BOOK FOR CAVALRY;  
CONTAINING  
THE FIRST PRINCIPLES  
OF  
CAVALRY DISCIPLINE,

FOUNDED ON RATIONAL METHOD;  
INTENDED  
TO EXPLAIN IN A FAMILIAR AND PRACTICAL MANNER,  
THE  
MANAGEMENT AND TRAINING OF  
THE HORSE,  
*AND THE INSTRUCTION, DISCIPLINE, AND DUTIES*  
OF  
U. S. LIGHT DRAGOONS:

CONFORMABLE TO  
THE ESTABLISHED ELEMENTARY DISCIPLINE OF INFANTRY  
FOR THE  
UNITED STATES' MILITARY FORCE,

AND  
THE LATEST IMPROVEMENTS  
*IN THE MODERN ART OF WAR.*



BY COLONEL WILLIAM DUANE,  
ADJUTANT GENERAL IN THE ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES.

---

PHILADELPHIA:  
PRINTED FOR THE AUTHOR.

.....  
1814.

*DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO WIT:*

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* BE IT REMEMBERED, that on the 2d day of May, in the  
\* thirty-eighth year of the Independence of the United States of  
\* L. S. \* America A. D. 1814, William Duane, of the said district, hath de-  
\* posited in this office the title of a book, the right whereof he claims  
\* as author, in the words following, to wit: "A Hand Book for Cavalry;  
\* "containing the First Principles of Cavalry Discipline, Founded on Rational  
\* "Method; intended to explain in a familiar and practical manner, the  
\* "Management and Training of the Horse, and the Instruction, Discipline, and  
\* "Duties of U. S. Light Dragoons: Conformable to the established elementary  
\* "discipline of Infantry for the United States' Military Force, and the latest  
\* "improvements in the Modern Art of War. By Colonel William Duane,  
\* "adjutant general in the army of the United States."

In conformity to the act of the congress of the United States, intituled "an act for the encouragement of learning, by securing the copies of maps, charts, and books, to the authors and proprietors of such copies during the times therein mentioned;" And also to the act, entitled "an act supplementary to an act, entitled 'an act for the encouragement of learning, by securing the copies of maps, charts, and books, to the authors and proprietors of such copies during the times therein mentioned,' and extending the benefits thereof to the arts of designing, engraving, and etching, historical and other prints."

D. CALDWELL,  
*Clerk of the District of Pennsylvania.*



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## INTRODUCTION.

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THE discipline of cavalry, like other branches of the military science, has been much improved. The changes consist in disincumbering the elementary instruction from useless, and in some cases, preposterous parts; reducing every principle to simplicity and method, like the discipline of infantry; consulting what is necessary to the instruction of the man, in the proper management of the horse; the manner of taking care of him off duty; and training him to obedience and docility when on parade or on service. The system, it may be said, is reduced to reason; and the old practices of violence in the instruction of the horse are banished in common with the barbarous treatment of the man.

These changes present no difficulty, excepting what arises out of the force of prejudices, which are always stronger in proportion to the duration of habits, or the mistaken consideration—or no consideration, of the subject. An experienced officer, speaking of the cavalry discipline, was so apprehensive of those prejudices, as to believe them to be too inveterate to be overcome by any effort to introduce a rational system in the United States. This apprehension had so much weight as to suspend this work for a whole year. But during this interval a greater difficulty has been overcome in the established infantry discipline; although that continues to meet the opposition of a variety of men, actuated by various passions of a dissimilar character. Some actuated by personal motives....others by that spirit of jealousy which cannot bear to see others execute what they are not themselves competent to perform....and too many totally incompetent to form a correct judgment on any military subject. The nature of the errors which are proposed to be exploded in this elementary tract, and the simple principles offered to supersede them, will be explicitly stated.

Those parts of the manege which were heretofore a branch of fashionable education, curvetts and caprioles, make no part of modern cavalry discipline. The training of the horse to correct and exact paces is carefully inculcated.

The horse is taught the paces in the circle at the longe, until he moves with the required foot, as correctly as the soldier on parade; and acquires the military habit of docility and implicit obedience to the hand.

The dragoon is taught the natural seat; the nature and use of the aids in horsemanship; the appropriate method of movement in rank and file, mounted; analogous to the movements which he must previously have acquired in the infantry drill, which precedes the cavalry exercises.

In the principles of movement, uniform rules, founded in reason and in simplicity, are to be undeviatingly pursued. That rule which properly embraces all corps which execute evolutions, is particularly indispensable, and highly favorable for cavalry—it is this principle, that all changes in movement from the single rank or single file in motion, shall be made by *even numbers of files, whether in rank or in file.*

This rule, which is in opposition to a practice very much and generally prevalent among volunteer corps, has been followed in some of the regular corps, owing to a want of due consideration of the subject. There are no works, elementary or general, in the language, which treat appropriately of the subject, in a didactic or rational way. The works usually read are the English system, which is only the French system of the last century, modified in some degree by the Prussian after the seven years war. But neither the established system of the British nor the most approved and best of the private works, contain the elementary instructions adapted to teach the first principles. Another cause is, that the teachers usually employed, are mere mechanical imitators, who have been accustomed to the British system and practice alone, and who have never enquired whether the principles were good or bad.

The usage of moving by *ranks of three*, which is the most prevailing, is repugnant to the rule of *even numbers.*

It will be useful to the young officer, as well as proper in itself, to explain the grounds upon which the *sections of even numbers* should supercede ranks of three.

The only reasons assigned in favor of ranks of three are the following:

1. It was the practice of the French cavalry in former times, and after the deep order of cavalry had been superceded by the extended order.

2. The reason assigned at this time, is, that the front occupied by three horsemen in rank, is equal to the length of a horse from the nose to the croup.

3. There is only one more argument used in support of the propriety of evolutions by ranks of three; that is, that the king of Prussia at a certain period of his military career, changed the order of his cavalry from two to three ranks. Hence it has been inferred that the evolutions should also be performed by threes.

These three arguments, it is presumed, contain all that can be said in support of ranks of three.

The argument drawn from ancient example amounts to no more than, that it was the practice cotemporaneous with the fantastic exercise of the manege, and the perpendicular seat, which placed the man astride the horse like a pair of tongs; a ludicrous practice, exploded by more rational experience.

The second argument is rather whimsical than rational—admitting it for fact that the length of ground occupied by a horse with his side to the front is 9 feet; and the front of three horses faced to the front is

equal to three feet each; still the space of six inches between the knees of each horseman would make nearly two feet more. The distance between ranks, being at least one yard, gives the front of another horse. But surely horses never charge an enemy side foremost; and passing can derive no aid from ranks of three. But does the practice depend on any such analogy, it is not by the manner in which horses may stand for fantastical purposes that the principle is to be determined.

The true principles of formation, are order and symmetry in evolution; compactness and flexibility, under all circumstances.

By symmetry, as applied to the question, is to be understood, the movements of mounted troops in such numbers and in such order, as shall be productive of a common impulse; with such compactness, as is necessary to the force of that impulse; to be produced by means so simple and easy, as to be augmented or reduced without complexity or confusion.

By compactness, is understood one of the great essentials of cavalry in action, that is the closeness of the files of the squadron in the charge or shock.

By flexibility, is to be understood the freedom and celerity with which cavalry move off in small sections, or augment a parallel front by moving from smaller to larger sections. Above all by the exactness and rapidity of their wheeling in any required number of ranks or sections.

The examination of this last point may, perhaps, appear decisive of the whole; and it will render what shall be said on the king of Prussia's formation in the triple order more distinct.

A single rank of dragoons being formed, how is the evolution of wheeling to the right by ranks of three to be performed? We find it executed thus: The second horse from the right of each rank of three, is the centre of the section, and the rule is, for this horse to move upon its own ground; that is, the length of the horse shall be placed so on the wheel that it shall stand as exactly across the ground upon which it wheeled as if there was a pivot in the centre of its body.

The right hand horse at the same time is to be reined backward and to the left—the left horse of the three only performing a short wheeling movement upon his right to the new front.

It is easy to perceive that this central pivot horse, and this reining back of the right flank horse, can be at no time eligible for execution but under the most perfect discipline of man and horse; that it is, therefore, neither adapted for a system of discipline for raw troops, nor for the exercises of new horses and men.

But it has the further exception to it, that it is not adapted for the formation of troops in any order but from that of one rank. For example, suppose a troop paraded in the order of two ranks; the established distance of ranks is half the length of a horse....if the interval of ranks be only a yard or half a horse length; as one horse reins back, and another wheels forward, a space is required for two horses, instead of one. Further....in some armies, the whole length of a horse between



the croup of the front rank and the nose of the rear rank. Suppose the word of command given:

**PRECAUTION.** *The troop will take care to wheel into column upon the right of ranks by threes.*

*Ranks of three....right wheel....march.*

What is the effect? They are wheeled, if they can be said to wheel securely and correctly, not into ranks of three, but into ranks of six. It may be said that the three of the front rank may, instead of wheeling, advance, and be followed by the rear rank of three. Then the rank of three loses all the supposed advantage derived from wheeling upon its centre horse! and any other number is at least as good as ranks of three! The same observations will apply if wheeling upon the left--and if by ranks of three from the centre, ranks of three present no advantage whatever, and many disadvantages.

But that is not the intention of a mode of evolution so dissimilar from the infantry; it is to be found in the difference between the space occupied by a man and a horse; and the impracticability of turning a horse to the right or left, or the right or left about, on the same ground which he occupies in rank and file.

Here it will be proper to mention what relates to the king of Prussia. *Fomini* has said that few, even military men, understood the principles of the king of Prussia's tactics. Frederick had found that in the charges of his cavalry in two ranks, there occurred many openings; owing to the casual inclination of the flanks of squadrons outward, to avoid the collision of their own comrades, and to obtain more room for individual action; this he had sought to remedy and did remedy on parade; but he found it preferable to form his squadrons in *three ranks*, but in action *to charge only with two*, holding the third rank in reserve, who were to push into those intervals produced by the opening of flanks, as well as to supply the place of as many as fell on the shock. The king of Prussia suffered no intervals between the squadrons of cavalry in his first line, and upon the same principle he was averse to multiplying flanks. Some theorists have reduced the dragoon to one pistol, because the king of Prussia after the two first wars in Silesia had declared their pistols were not as effective as the sword; not, however, perceiving that he did not abandon the pistols, though he had provided to instruct his men with the sword, and shown them how much more advantageous that weapon was for the mounted soldier, than the pistol—which he directed only to be used in the last resort. Yet in this point, in his practice with the sword at the figure, the king of Prussia only revived what had been in practice among the French before.

The movements by ranks of three, therefore, are not adapted for evolution, nor for the double order; and the analogy drawn from the triple order of the Prussian squadrons is evidently fallacious. The ranks of three possess no advantages even in forward movements, which are not found, and in a more perfect manner, in the even order of sections.



When this point is decided, and the reasoning appears irresistible, there remains very little difference between the evolutions of infantry and those of cavalry; and none, in fact, but such as arise out of the space of ground occupied by the horse compared with that occupied by the infantry soldier. The method of evolution by even sections, that is, of two, four, eight, twelve, sixteen, twenty, or twenty-four, in front, is adapted not only to every species of movement, front or flank, with exactness; but it avoids that perplexity which is inseparable from the evolutions of sections of odd numbers.

If it be desired to move from a flank into a narrow defile, by a troop in the double order of files, it may be performed by simply wheeling each horse upon its own ground to the required flank in the exact order of formation; the front rank when wheeled, forming the left rank in double files, and the rear forming the right rank. If the movement be required by double files to the front, in such order as to assume the front on the same parallel; the double files from each rank move forward with similar regularity and simplicity; the two men of the front forming the leading file of the column; and the rear rank or covering files, forming the second rank; and so on from right to left, the movement being constantly upon the leading men of each file; the men of the rear rank always preserving their places in the rear of their file leaders. If the movement be from the right of a squadron, in double files of rank, or ranks of two, this is performed in a wheel of two of each rank, which gives a front of four to the column; a wheel upon the left or even files of each rank, produces the primitive order of front and rear ranks; in all other movements, the movement of front and rear rank are the same as the infantry.

Thus ranks of two or double files from the right, should be the first evolution of the drill; the next should be ranks of four; the front files counting, as in the movements of infantry, and the rear or second, wheeling up independently of the front. This cannot be accomplished with the same simplicity and ease by any ranks or sections of odd numbers, which by their inequality produce confusion. Even numbers are not excluded upon emergency by the method of the triple order, but if a rank of four is to be formed from ranks of three, the right hand file of the second section of three becomes the left hand file of the first section of four, and the succession of formations to the extreme of the squadrons has no uniform rule, odd and even files are confounded; and where it is from the double order, disorder is the effect. This particularly applies to troops newly organized and imperfectly disciplined as the cavalry of the United States must of necessity be for some time after they are organized, and until an uniform and rational system shall have been established.

There is only one exception which criticism can urge to the principles here suggested; that is, that in the infantry system, odd numbers are

admitted ; and that it would at first sight seem that the principle of difficulty would appear in both arms. But this exception disappears at once ; if it be only considered that in the infantry system, the men hear and understand and execute their movements at once, and on ground of the same extent for every man wherever faced ; while the dragoon has not only to hear and understand and act for himself, but to govern and direct his horse and use his arms also ; and on ground in one direction three times the length of his front.

No rational exception, it is to be presumed, can be made to the principle of even numbers in evolution ; and the necessity of abiding by that method will be seen in practice at every step taken by the young practitioner or even the liberal martinet. The depth of ground occupied by the squadron, even in the double order, compared with the space occupied by infantry in the simple order, will exemplify this.

The horse in the rank occupies, say only nine feet—the proper and only safe interval of ranks for evolutions, is at least the half length of a horse, this makes near eight yards for the depth of the squadron ; while the depth of the infantry battalion of three ranks, is only three yards ! which allows room enough for every movement of the man, and for the rear rank to load the firelocks of the centre rank.

One word more only is necessary. The principle of movement by ranks of three has been exploded already by many corps of the British army ; particularly the guards. On the continent of Europe ranks of three are entirely exploded : by Prussia, by Austria, by Russia, as well as by France.

A few words require to be said as to the present work. It is not a servile imitation of any existing work ; but it is principally constructed upon the French system of 1804, the most complete that ever was published. This work was undertaken under the sanction of the former secretary of war, and with the sanction of the present. It was the intention to give the whole of the French work which was applicable to the cavalry employed in the United States, and the plates were all engraved for the purpose, and two thirds of the entire work printed ; but upon presenting the copies of the prepared plates to the present secretary, it was suggested, through the adjutant general, that it would be too voluminous ; and it became necessary to remodel the work, in order to bring it within the compass prescribed. The engravings are numerous, principally from the French ; those which relate to the horse and particularly the shoeing are derived from a careful study of the writings of *La Fosse*, *Saint Bel*, *Coleman*, and the best writers on the veterinary art.

It may be agreeable to those who wish for the larger system, to be informed, that the plates being already engraved, the whole will be given in a future edition of the Military Library, when private views and narrow prejudices cease to operate against the diffusion of military information.

# A HAND BOOK FOR CAVALRY.

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## CHAPTER I.

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### § 1. PRINCIPLES OF CAVALRY DISCIPLINE.

IN an effective cavalry discipline, four courses of exercise are indispensable:

1. The complete instruction of the man in the infantry discipline.
2. The training of the horse to an habit of uniform motion in each of the three paces....the walk, trot, and gallop.
3. The exercise of the man on the trained horse.
4. The method of evolution peculiar to cavalry.

As no officer desirous to be perfect in his profession, can expect to understand it without passing through the first course of infantry discipline, they should resort to the Hand Book for Infantry, for this first branch of the duty and discipline of light dragoons, before they are introduced to the exercises with the horse. The discipline and police of the dismounted dragoons are the same as those of the infantry soldier; and the period when the dragoon is introduced to the horse, must be determined by the circumstances of the corps. As the first organized body of infantry is called a company, the first organization of cavalry of any description, is called a *troop*.

Every troop of cavalry should consist of one hundred privates, five serjeants, eight corporals, and the same number of commissioned officers as a company of infantry, beside a quarter master, and master of the sword, the smith, farrier, and saddler. The quarter master, and master of the sword, may form a grade below the commissioned, and above the non-commissioned officers.

The whole of the troop must be completely instructed in the infantry discipline, when the cavalry discipline commences.

The detachments being assembled from various quarters at camp or in barracks, the captain or senior subaltern, immediately assumes the command; and if he has not had previous orders from head quarters, he must lose no time himself in the immediate introduction of a strict police and discipline. He must prepare an orderly troop



book, in which he will distribute the duties among the subalterns of his troop, and assign to them respectively the charge of one or more squads of men and horses. He will ascertain the number of centinels necessary ; order a guard of three or four times the number of centinels posted, and assign to the senior subaltern the first day's guard ; if the subalterns are few, the subaltern shall only see the guard mounted and perform the duties of officer of the day, and attend the stables three times a day, at the hours assigned by the orders, in the morning, noon, and evening ; and he shall assign a serjeant and a corporal every day in rotation who shall be made responsible that the stable duties are duly performed.

Where there is a troop quarter master, it is his duty to attend specially to all that concerns stables, forage, and the condition of the horses ; where there is no regular troop quarter master, a serjeant must be specially charged with that duty and exempted from every other.

The troop is distributed into four equal squads, and placed under the charge of their non-commissioned officers. The serjeants and corporals shall be equally divided among the squads, and one or more men from each squad in stable dress for stable duties every day ; to parade in the rear of the guard at grand parade time, and march thence to the stables.

The non-commissioned officers to lodge and mess with their respective squads ; and the squads to be numbered : the non-commissioned officers' and privates' clothes, accoutrements, and arms, to be numbered, commencing with No. 1, for those of the first serjeant of the troop—No. 2, the second serjeant, attached to the first squad—No. 3, and No. 4, the corporals of the first squad, and so in succession, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14 ; the second squad commencing with the serjeant, No. 15, the corporals 16 and 17, and the privates in succession.

The horses of the troop should be placed in squads in their stables, or at their pickets in camp ; and numbered corresponding with the numbers of the riders, and stand each in place and order with his number.

The duties which the dragoon will have to perform, and the knowledge and experience which he must acquire, are next to be carefully but gradually inculcated.

He must be made acquainted with the proper names of all the parts of the horse, and accustomed to use no other than the proper terms ; he must know the names of all his accoutrements, and of all the minute parts of them ; as well as of his arms and personal equipments.

The knowledge of these particulars are indispensable ; but they cannot be acquired at once ; they are best acquired in the exercise of other duties which the dragoon will have to perform.

These duties are of six kinds :

1. The feeding and care of the horse when in the stable.



2. The management, training, and accoutring of the horse, for discipline.
3. Riding and managing in exercises of discipline, in squad, troop, and squadron.
4. Acquaintance with the accidents or diseases to which horses are liable, particularly in the feet.
5. The knowledge of the use of fire arms, and the proper names of all their parts, and the proper method of keeping them in good order.
6. The knowlege of the use of the sabre; and when it can be accomplished, the straight or broad sword.

## § 2. OF THE HORSE.

The importance of a due acquaintance with the properties and parts of the horse, points out the necessity of a correct knowledge of those terms in the language, which, by being uniform and common to all, renders knowledge more sure, and guards against errors which prevail concerning the horse, when there is no common standard to which men can resort for the correct explanations of technical terms.

Every dragoon or every officer of dragoons, cannot become a complete veterinary surgeon; or a perfect master of the anatomy of the horse. But it is essential that the same language and the same names should be employed in the army, in all cases, to describe things constantly required to be named; and thence the utility of possessing a book of reference by which the name of any particular bone, or member, or part of the horse, may be described, without the danger of mistaking one part for another.

It is necessary that every dragoon should know the peculiarities of the horse's mouth, by which his age is discovered and his management by the bit is accomplished; and a knowledge of the hoof of the horse is indispensable, because upon the proper care in shoeing greatly depends the good condition of the horse.

In this Hand Book is given the anatomy of the horse, referring to plates, and showing the bones, and the muscular exterior of the horse; the head and teeth, and the hoofs.

Plate I, fig. 1, represents the skeleton of the horse.

- A. The head, including all its parts as articulated with the neck.
- B B. The blade-bone or scapula.
- C. The humerus or shoulder-bone.
- D D. The bones of the leg or fore-arm, consisting in each of the radius and ulna.
- E E. The joints of the knees, with the small ranges of bones,
- F F. The posterior parts of the knee-joints.
- G G. The shank-bones, consisting in each of the cannon bone, and the two metacarpal or splent bones.
- H H. The great pastern bones, with the two sesamoid bones of each fetlock.

- I I. The lesser pastern bones.  
 K K. The bones of the feet, consisting in each of the coffin and navicular bones, with the lateral cartilages.  
 L L. The bones of the pelvis, called ossa innominata.  
 M M. The thigh-bones.  
 N N. The bones of the hind legs; consisting in each, of the tibia and the fibula.  
 O O. The points of the hocks.  
 P P. The small bones of the hocks.  
 Q Q. The bones of the instep; consisting, in each, of the cannon bone and two metatarsal bones.  
 R R. The great pasterns and sesamoid bones of the hind legs.  
 S S. The little pastern bones of the hind legs.  
 T T. The coffin and navicular bones of each hind foot, with the lateral cartilages.  
 V. The sternum or breast bone.  
 X. The point of the sternum.  
 Y Y. The ribs.  
 Z. The cartilaginous ends of the ribs on the breast and abdomen.  
 I. II. III. IV. V. VI. VII. The seven vertebræ of the neck.  
 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. The eighteen vertebræ of the thorax and back.  
 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. The six vertebræ of the loins.  
 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. The five spines of the os sacrum.  
 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. The eighteen joints of the coxendix and tail.

Plate I, fig. 2, represents the exterior of the horse. The figures refer to the several parts; the horse is divided into three several parts—technically, the *forehand*, the *body*, the *hindhand*.

#### The forehand comprehends:

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The forehead, brow, or front, that part which is most backward is also called the poll.</li> <li>2. The temples.</li> <li>3. The eyepits, or cavity above the eyes, deepest in old horses.</li> <li>4. The jaw; the inner side of the mouth between the jaw bones is called the channel, and the fleshy rows as described in fig. 1, plate II, are called the palate bars.</li> <li>5. The lips.</li> <li>6. The eye bone.</li> <li>7. Tip of the nose or muzzle.</li> <li>8. The nostrils.</li> <li>9. Beard or barb, from the long scattered hairs which grow under the lip.</li> <li>10. Neck; this comprehends from the head to the shoulders.</li> <li>11. The mane is the long hair on the neck.</li> <li>12. The forelock—the crest is the upper or arched part of the</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>neck; in a horse in full vigor it is semicircular; in horses out of spirit it is straight, and the horse is then said to be crest fallen.</li> <li>13. The throat or throttle.</li> <li>14. The withers is that part of the end of the neck and mane rising above the shoulders, and the highest part of the spine. It is at the withers the height of a horse is measured, by hands of 4 inches.</li> <li>15. Shoulders enclose the breast on both sides from the withers to the fore arms or legs.</li> <li>16. Breast, chest, or potrail.</li> <li>17. Elbow, is that part of the junction of the arm with the shoulder which points when bent to the after part of the horse.</li> <li>18. The arms reach from the elbows to the knees or joints of the fore legs.</li> </ol> |
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19. The plate vein.
20. The chesnut.
21. The knee is that joint which unites the arm to the shank and bends forward.
22. The shank is that part of the leg which reaches from the knee to the great pastern or fetlock joint.
23. The main tendon or tendon achilles.

24. The fetlock joint ; there are a great and a small pastern joint, below which is the foot.
25. Fetlock.
26. Pastern; the distance between the fetlock and coronet.
27. Coronet.
28. Hoof.
29. Quarters, or sides of the hoof.
30. Toe.
31. Heel.

#### The body comprehends :

32. Reins.
33. Fillets.
34. Ribs.

35. Belly.
36. Flanks.

#### The hindhand :

37. Croup or rump.
38. Tail.
39. Buttocks.
40. Haunches, which commence at the termination of the loins, and descend on each side to the hock.
41. Stifle is that part of the thigh or joint which projects forward when the horse bends his hind leg ; it is the knee-pan of the horse.
42. Thigh begins at the stifle and reaches to the bending of the ham or hock.

43. The hock or ham is the tendon of the hind leg.
44. The kerb, or inside of the hock.
45. Point of the hock ; the round knob on the joint is called the heel of the hock, the tendon achilles is inserted at this joint. The small of the fore leg being called the shank, the small of the hind leg is called the instep. The pasterns and feet behind have the same names as those before.

### § 3. ANATOMY OF THE HEAD AND TEETH.

Plate II, represents the anatomy of the head, throat, tongue, teeth, and bars of the mouth, and the growth of the teeth at every age from the colt to the horse eight years old.

Fig. 1, plate II, represents the head laid open by the extension of the jaws, exhibiting the teeth in their various stages of growth, the only certain means by which the age of horses can be ascertained.

The teeth in a horse are forty, and thirty-six in a mare ; mares generally have no fangs ; the teeth are fixed in plain sockets.

The teeth are divided into incisive, fangs, and grinders. The incisive teeth are subdivided into fore teeth, *a a* ; middle, *b b* ; corner teeth, *c c* ; each jaw has two fore teeth, two middle, two corner, two fangs, *d d*, and twelve grinders, *e e*.

Each tooth has two parts, the tooth or shank and its root. The tooth is the part seen, which is separated from the root by a small circle very indistinctly marked, where the root commences. The root is the part concealed in the socket ; the fore teeth and fangs are of a tapering figure ; the grinders are square ; the fore teeth and fangs have only one root ; the grinders appear to have their roots divided into five or six small parts ; each root is placed in a separate socket, through which the artery, vein, and nerve pass for the nourishment of the tooth.

The teeth at their formation are mucilaginous, of a yellowish color, covered with a strong membrane, which ossifying, forms the commence-



ment of the tooth, so that the teeth begin to form at their circumference, not at their centre.

The part of the tooth which is first formed, is the enamel, which appears at the end of six weeks, and acquires consistency and size towards the fourth month, in the matrix of the mouth; the teeth in part formed remain in their sockets until the tenth or twelfth day after the colt is foaled, then the small membrane covering them is broken and four of them appear, two above and two below; these are the fore teeth *a a*.

The middle teeth *b b*, appear a month or six weeks after; the corner teeth *c c*, about three or four months after; but there are occasional variations of this period more or less; the horse remains in this state till the age of two years and a half or three, then the four first young teeth fall, and are replaced by four others which are likewise called fore teeth, (fig. 2, *a a*) at three and a half or four years the middle ones fall out and are replaced by four others bearing the same name, (fig. 5, *b b*) at four and a half or five years the corner teeth are shed, and are replaced by others of the same name (fig. 4, *c c*) These are the teeth of a horse.

The difference between the teeth of a colt (fig. 5,) and those of the horse, is, that the first are clear white, full, and their roots hollow; those of the horse are hollow, without terminating in a point at their root.

At four years and a half, often at five, the fangs (fig. 4, *d d*,) come through; sometimes, but rarely, at three years and a half.

The knowledge of the age of a horse may be had from all the teeth, but the corner teeth and fangs of the lower jaw are principally attended to.

At five years the corner teeth (fig. 4, *c c*,) have only a small circle of enamel without, the fore part of the tooth is covered by the gum; the fangs (*d d*) have grown a little and form a sharp point; at five years and a half the corner teeth appear turned inside to form the internal coating of the teeth.

At six years the coating of the teeth *c*. (fig. 6) is entirely formed, the tooth hollow, its exterior covering is unequally furrowed.

The fangs are formed at six years and a half, the corner teeth beginning fill up; the internal as well as the external coating has acquired consistency, the inequalities yet subsist, the fangs are still sharp; in this state the horse remains until seven and a half or eight years; sometimes at eight years the teeth begin to change their appearance, the corner as well as the other teeth are impaired, the little opening generally disappears, although there are horses that have them always hollow, (a remark more particularly applicable to mares) the grooves are effaced, the gums shrink, and the teeth appear longer, the fangs are dull and rounded.

The more the animal advances in age the more distinct these signs are.

At eight years the horses teeth are complete; the upper jaw may yet, however, be consulted, the fore teeth of which commence at nine years.

The middle teeth at nine years and a half.

The corner teeth at nine years and a half or ten years. After this age no more.

**SUMMARY.**—A little after being foaled, four fore teeth; a little after the fore teeth, four middle teeth: three or four months after, four corner teeth; at two years and a half (fig. 2) the fore teeth come out; at three and a half (fig. 3) the middle teeth, the fangs below appear.

At four years and a half (fig. 4) the corner teeth are nearly even with the gums: at five years the fangs above and corner teeth are out about the thickness of a dollar.

At five years and a half the corner teeth are out about the thickness of two dollars; the fangs below sharp and white.

From five years and a half to six years (fig. 6.) the corner teeth are about the thickness of the little finger, the incisive germ or hollow of the fore teeth, is decayed, those of the middle teeth half so.



At six years the incisive germ of the corner teeth is diminished, the fangs have arrived at their length, the fangs above are rough inside.

At seven years (fig. 4) the corner teeth come out a finger's length, the mark greatly diminished.

At eight years the incisive germ is entirely effaced, which is called having the mark no more.

**SIGNS OF OLD AGE.**—The fangs above are rounded and diminished; those below are rounded and yellow; the teeth advanced long and yellow; the salier hollow; the eye lash is white; the bone of the lower jaw sharp; the grey horse becomes white.

#### § 4. ANATOMY OF THE FEET.

The fatal errors which prevail among horse smiths and uneducated farriers, are so inveterate as to require the utmost precaution of the dragoon officer.

To comprehend these errors perfectly, and to save the horse for military service, at least from the baneful effects, it will be useful to give such a view of the structure of the foot, as will indicate in what particulars the prevailing practices in shoeing are destructive and at variance with nature.

The engravings, plates III and IV, represent the foot of the horse and its several parts, in a variety of positions, and describe the correctly formed foot. The hoof, is described by the crust, or wall, the sole, the frog, and the bars; and these parts, like horn, have no sensibility.

Plate III, fig. 1. represents the hoof as seen from the side or in profile; the upper edge, B, fig. 1, shews the coronet or the line which separates the horny substance from the fleshy part of the foot. The crust, or wall, descends thence downward sloping, increasing in width as it descends to D. From the interior structure of the tender fleshy part of the foot, which occupies the *coffin*, or interior part of the hoof, that part which is towards the toe, at D, is considerably thicker or composed of more horny substance than the sides below A and above C; on this horny substance, or the edge, the shoe is attached by nails driven through the horny substance and clenched at 1, 2, 3, 4. The sides or quarters of the hoof or crust, A, are much less substantial than the toe, and the outer quarter or side usually somewhat thinner than the inner side or quarter of the crust. It must be evident, then, from the use of the shoe, that these particularities should be attended to in shoeing the horse. E, shews the heel in profile.

Fig. 2. describes the sole of the hoof. A A shew the sole of the hoof as seen looking directly at the foot when turned up for shoeing, which is a continuity of the same kind of horny substance as the crust or wall, and covers the interior surface of what is called the coffin bone, between which, however, and the horny sole, there is a substance more approaching to flesh, and sensible, through the blood vessels of which the horny substance is nourished. The face of the sole is concave; that is, from the outer edge of the crust it gradually hollows to the centre. The use of this hoof is to protect the sensible foot from injury, and iron shoes are added by art for the same purpose only.

C C, shew the bars of the hoof full as they approach from the heels where they are naturally broad, round, and full to a point, and there unite with the point of the frog, between F and F. In some horses they do not completely unite, but are blended in the common sole before they reach the point of the frog, but this is their usual appearance. The use of these bars is to keep the heels expanded, and there are usually

two rough channels between the bars and the frog; the smiths unfortunately conceive that they are not only obliged to enlarge these channels, but to cut away the frog, and to make another cavity between the heels also. This pernicious abuse must be prevented altogether; and the dragoon officer ought to be responsible for suffering a practice so fatal to the horse.

The frog, B B, is of the same insensible horny substance as the hoof, but appearing of a more spongy substance; proceeding from the heels, at E, when in its natural and healthy state it presents two round scaly protuberances approaching each other from the heels to an obtuse point, in at about one third of the length of the hoof from the toes, it presents, in its separation towards the heels, a rough fissure like that between it and the bars. The frog is of a spongy hornlike substance and elastic, it is united in the interior of the foot, with a substance called the sensible frog, and a bone called the shuttle bone. The termination of the frog at the heels form two large rounded cartilages, which perform a most important function in the foot of the horse, and their uses show the necessity of protecting them against the pernicious practices which prevail among smiths, who cut away bars, frogs, and cartilages, under the destructive notion of what they call opening the heels. The toe of the sensible frog, inside the horny frog, unites with the coffin bone; but about nine tenths of the frog are behind the coffin bone; they are both immoveable where they are united; but the elasticity is found in those cartilages formed by the lateral rounding of the frog; their elasticity gives great power to the horse; and wherever the hoof comes in contact with the ground the frog first ascends and then descends. This ascent of the frog expands the cartilages, preserves the heels from contraction, and provides a strong elastic spring for the foot of the horse. Its wedge-like form, also, prevents the horse from slipping with the unshod foot. It must be evident, therefore, that to injure these valuable parts, as is the practice with farriers, with the destructive butteris, is to injure the horse. Cutting the heels so enormously, and raising the foot from the ground by massy shoes and cocked heels, destroy the functions for which nature destined the frog. It follows of course, that to shoe a horse, the sole should stand in the same horizontal position when shod, as if there were no iron shoe; that the function of the frog forbids its being cut away; and that when a horse is shod properly, the lower roundings or shoulders of the cartilages of the frog should be on a line with the lower surface of the iron shoe; for unless the frog sustain an uniform pressure, it becomes inflamed, and the heels are contracted; while if it be permitted to preserve its natural form and come in constant contact with the ground, it becomes callous, and capable of resisting pressure without pain; in a word, healthy; and the horse is exempted from many diseases which farriers alone inflict.

This engraving presents a shoe of the most approved form; thin on the inner edge, and thick on the outer edge, the ends of the heels show the general shape of the web of the shoe, the shaded part of the shoe, D D, shews the portion of the shoe which is hollowed on the side next the ground. Some feet will, however, require shoes of a greater length; but the general principle fixes the length at the union of the bars and frog: the shoe standing a little beyond the hoof on the outer side of each foot to prevent the over growth of the hoof and to admit of the natural growth and opening of the heels.

Fig. 3. shews the hoof of the off hind foot, as seen behind or at the heels D D, the upright wall or crust, at the sides or quarters of the hoof. E E, the heels. C C, the inner cavity of the hoof, with the sensible frog rising in its centre at F. A, shews the end of the heel of the shoe and the part of the sole clear of the shoe, the outer edge on the ground line; the inner edge above the ground line. B, shews the outer heel of the shoe

cocked for frosty weather, but the lower point of which is still on the ground line and on a level with the heels at E E, and the inner side of the shoe at A. This shoe, thus cocked, is called *Coleman's shoe*, from the English veterinary surgeon who invented it. To fix this shoe on the hoof the quarter of the hoof on the outer side is cut away sufficiently to admit of this heel, when thus cocked, to be on the level with the other side of the shoe and with the frog.

Plate IV, fig. 1 and 2, shew the bottom of the foot, with the internal parts partially removed, or withdrawn from the hoof.

Fig. 1. represents the under part of the fleshy sole, *c*; raised from the foot bone or coffin bone, *d, d*; *g*, the covering or sheath of the tendon Achilles; *z*, the cartilage, which surrounds the coffin bone and separates it from the fleshy sole of the hoof; *y*, the edge of the fleshy sole confined in the furrow of the channelled horny substance.

Fig. 2. shews the horny sole, *a*, raised from the fleshy sole, *c c*, round which is the enchained flesh, *y*; placed in the fulcus of the inner surface of the hoof, the horny part of which is soft and white.

Fig. 3. The bar shoe, intended for the protection of a foot injured in the frog or bars, by shoeing or accident; the shape behind, at C, will be seen to conform to the channel of the frog, A, and to protect it. The nails in the bar shoe should be placed farther toward the heels than in the common shoe; in order to counterpoise the weight and keep it firm, B B shew the line of direction of the bars.

#### § 5. OF SHOEING THE HORSE.

The practice which generally prevails where the modern improvements in the veterinary art have not overcome the old prejudices, is contrary to the obvious intention of nature. The form of the foot, the shape and perfection of the frog, the bars which unite the hoof to the exterior crust, are like all the works of nature, formed in the most perfect manner for the purposes for which they have been adapted. The slightest attention is sufficient to show that the sole of a hoof, which approaches a round figure, is much better adapted to sustain the weight of the horse in soft ground, from sinking, and on bad ground with more firmness, than an oval or long sole. So the frog, which is elastic in the hoof, could not have been intended by nature, to possess that peculiarity without its use; nor can it be supposed that the bars which unite the outer crust or sole of the hoof to the frog, can be without their appropriate purpose. The practice which continues to prevail throughout the United States is, to give the sole of the hoof an oval or oblong form, and to pare the sides and cut away the frogs and bars; thus depriving the horse of a considerable portion of his useful power, besides laying the foundation of injuries and diseases, which take away from the comfort of that precious animal and half the utility both in the length and labor of his useful life.

The same absurdities prevail in the structure and manner of fitting on the shoes. Thus the shoe is in general too heavy; for the only use of the shoe being to save the hoof from injury in bad ground or roads, the shoe is sufficiently heavy when it is strong



enough for this purpose. For the same reason the shoe should not be made in any form which deviates from that of the perfectly shaped foot of nature ; nor should any more of the horny substance be cut away than may be necessary to place the exterior rim of about half an inch wide flat upon the outer edge of the sole, and directly under the wall or upright crust of the hoof. The practice most in use is to make the shoe enormously broad and to form the shoe in such a manner as that it shall be *dish d*, as the smiths term it, towards the sole, and round upon the ground ; that is, that the shoe, when the foot strikes the ground shall touch a flat surface with the inner edge of the shoe instead of the outer. In like manner it is a common practice to make the shoe thicker at the heels than at the toe ; and to this is added in winter, the cocking or frosting of the heels of the shoe in a most extravagant manner, sometimes nearly an inch long. Added to the absurdity of cutting away the sides or quarters of the hoof, where the horny substance is less than in front, the nails are also driven in the sides ; and the bars being cut away, which appear intended by nature to keep the heels of the hoof from contracting, the foot is in fact contracted and the horse subjected to a variety of ruinous diseases.

The practice in shoeing, or applying and fitting the shoe to the foot or hoof, is conducted with the same unfortunate propensity to reverse the natural order. When the shoe is made, it is usually thicker at the heels than at the toe—the web or plate of the shoe is made from an inch and a half to two inches broad—the surface next the ground is rounded so that the hoof stands as upon a ball ; and the nails, instead of being driven into the shoe where the hoof is thickest and most susceptible of a firm hold, are driven into the sides or quarters where the wall or crust is thinnest.

The shoe for the horse should conform to that shape in which the horse stands upon a level surface ; the heels of the horse should be neither higher nor lower than the toes, where the foot is not worn out of its natural form. It should be of an equal thickness on the outer edge all round ; flat on the upper surface where the sole of the hoof is concave or hollow ; but if the sole be very flat, so that a shoe of a plain level upper surface will touch it on any part inside the half an inch from the front line of the shoe, then the shoe should be dished, so as to admit some space between the shoe and the foot for the elastic horn substance of the sole ; but under all circumstances, whatever may be the shape of the foot, the under surface of the shoe should be dished or concave, so that the shoe shall touch the ground like the edge of a cup turned upside down.

The nails placed in the sides or quarters in the usual mode, are productive of similar bad effects ; for besides the high heels preventing the action of the frog, the nails on the quarters confine the growth of the crust and contract the hoof ; they in fact confine



the hoof as if it were in a vice ; the effect is frequently seen in the bending of nails nearest the heels, by the force of the natural effort of the crust to grow, and which does grow like the human nails ; so that the shoe which fitted the hoof at the beginning of the month is found too small at the end of the month ; the shoe never alters, but the crust expands over it in spite of the nails ; farriers call this "*the shoe eating into the sole* ;" a fatal mistake, for it is only the natural appearance of the growth of the hoof. When the hoof is attempted to be contracted, nature thus overcomes it, by the extension of the crust, and the farrier never dreams that the appearance is the effect of false principles in his art ; he sets down the wise operation of nature as a disease, when it is, in fact, only the effort of nature to overcome an artificial violence ; for the shoe, instead of resting on the crust or wall, is, by this extension of the crust and the natural opening of the heels, placed on the sole where it is pernicious to the horse ; the growth of the horny substance of the hoof being too powerful to be prevented by the shoe and nails.

To shoe the horse in a rational manner, it must be kept in mind that it is intended only to provide a protection for the hoof, so that the horse shall perform his natural faculties with the same ease but with greater security from injury to the foot, than if the hoof were not shod. Four things are to be regarded in order to accomplish this purpose with the best effect. 1. The preparation of the hoof. 2. The form of the shoe. 3. The application of the shoe. 4. The driving the nails.

It is presumed that the natural form of the hoof, and the principles laid down by the form of the shoe already described, are understood, the preparation of the hoof will then consist in no more than cleaning and smoothing the sole, removing excrescences or irregularities of the horny substance, so that the sole shall be hollow ; and that the shoe shall rest only on the outer circle or lower edge or wall of the hoof, and not press on the inner part of the sole in any part ; to see that the bars and frog be cleaned and freed from excrescences but not cut away ; but that the sole be particularly clean and clear in the hollow cavity between the bars and crust ; the pressure of the shoe on this part being the common cause of the complaint called corns. The shoe should obtain its principal support from that part of the hoof at which the bars unite with the crust. Where the heels are higher than the frog, the heels should be lowered with the rasp. The frog must always be as low as the shoe or the foot is to be considered deficient and diseased.

The application of the shoe is to be presumed not to be attempted until the shoe is first formed to the exact shape of the sole freed from its excrescences and cleared round the outer edge and sole. The horse shoe should weigh from about twelve to fourteen ounces with its eight nails ; heavier horses, or those which travel over broken-stone roads or paved streets, may be some-

what heavier ; the breadth of the web, three fourths of an inch or less ; the thickness of the shoe all round on the outer edge about three eighths of an inch ; the inner edge about one eighth ; a set of shoes of this weight should last thirty days ; if they fail in that time, the quantity of iron or the strength of the shoe should be increased. The usual height of the heels, from the coronet to the base of the frog, is from two to two and a quarter inches. In fitting on the shoe the eye of the farrier should be governed by the view of the horse's naked foot on a level surface ; if the toe be too long, the hoof should be carefully pared away there, preserving the concavity of the sole ; if the toe be low and the heels high, then the heels should either be lowered if long, so as to stand on a line with the frog when the shoe is fixed or the toe of the shoe should be made thicker from the heels. But that lazy, cruel, and destructive practice of fitting on the shoe by placing it red hot on the hoof and burning it away, should be resisted with the utmost severity, and guarded against by never permitting the dragoon horse to be shod but in the presence of a commissioned officer or a non-commissioned who can be confided in. This practice dries up the hoof, and when the sole is thin is the frequent cause of incurable lameness.

The form of the hoof, and its condition under different circumstances, may also require that the nails be differently driven on the same parts of the hoofs of different horses : thus where a horse's hoof by any accident becomes chalky or brittle at the toe, it will be advisable, until that disease be removed, to drive the nails in the sides or quarters ; but if the hoof be in its natural and healthy state, then the nails, for most horses (eight being sufficient) should be driven at equal distances round the toe and sides ; the two nearest to the toe may be somewhat more distant from each other ; and should there be from the shape of the hoof a necessity for another nail, it should be on the outer side, as the wall of the hoof is thicker on the outer than on the inner side. Attention will be therefore necessary to the places in the shoe in which the nail holes are made, as well with regard to the particular structure and condition of each particular hoof, as to guard against the prejudices of farriers who are with great difficulty brought to depart from old habits.

In the usual manner of shoeing, four nails are placed nearly opposite each other on the sides of the shoe ; while the front or thickest part of the crust or wall, less in danger of being wounded by the nails, has not one nail.

The following concise rules should be rigidly enforced on the horse smith :

Shoes shall be made thick at the outer edge and thin on the inner edge as three to one.

The upper surface of the shoe shall be flat if the hoof be concave ; if the hoof be flat, the shoe concave on the upper surface, only

leaving about half an inch flat upon which the crust will rest, and through which the nails will be driven; under all circumstances there shall be room for a picker to clean the foot between the shoe and hoof.

The under surface of the shoe must be concave or dished, so that the shoe shall sink deeper in the ground on the circumference than in the inner edge of the shoe.

The bars shall not be cut, nor shall the frog be cut, but if any scales or excrescences appear they shall be cleaned or scraped away without diminishing the frog or bars.

The frog shall be on a level with the lower surface of the heels of the shoe.

If the heels of the feet are worn down, the shoe may be raised at the heels of such a height as to correspond with the natural erectness of the foot; if the toe be worn down, the shoe shall be thicker at the toe, but if there be any difference of thickness or elevation in the shoe it is preferable to have the heels low than the toe.

The shoe should not contain more iron than is necessary to unite all the objects of its intention—of sufficient strength not to bend or break with the action of the horse—little more than three fourths of an inch wide in the web for horses of the ordinary height for dragoon service.

The horse's heels never to be touched with the knife or butteris, on any pretence.

About an inch and a half of the shoe on the inside of the heel to be left without nails, and two inches on the outside, in order to permit the hoof to expand and preserve its openness at the heels.

The nails also should not have square heads, as is the practice; they should be of a conical shape, instead of an abrupt shoulder, and the holes in the shoe should be struck with a punch of a corresponding form; the groove in the shoe should leave more than the usual space on the outer edge; and the nail thus formed would retain the shoe with more security and firmness as it fits the hole. It is owing to the bad form of the nails and their not filling the hole in the shoe, that the shoes are too seldom firmly fixed to the hoof, and that if in the least shaken, the shoe rattles on the nails as long as the clench remains undrawn.

The following engravings shew the different kinds of nails, and the shape of the punch.

I. The common shoe nail, with a shoulder head.

II. The wedge nail, or *la Fosse's* conic nail.

III. Frost nails are made with heads like cones or pyramids, the smiths call them diamond heads, and they should be driven by means of an instrument of iron, having an indention of the shape of the head of the nail, laid on it, and this iron struck, so as to save the head when driving; a set of nails of this form would not raise one part of the hoof more than another, and would give a perfect footing to the horse on the most slippery ice.

IV. The chisel or punch, which forms the hole in the shoe, which should be of the size of the wedge nail.



V. Shews a modern shoe, with frost nails or diamond heads. The form of this shoe in its make is to be seen at the ends of the heels ; it is made so as to be free from the sole, and to be secured on about half an inch of the crust of the hoof round the sole ; it is also dished in the inner side, so that when made and laid on an even surface, the bright parts of the shoe, as it appears in the engraving, touch the surface ; from the rise inside the nail channel, it cups or slopes to the inner edge.





## § 6. HORSE ACCOUTREMENTS.

## NAMES OF THE PARTS OF THE SADDLE AND EQUIPMENTS.

Plate VI. Fig. A. represents the naked saddle tree before the stretching webs and pads or cushions, or the covering leathers and skirts, are placed upon it.

1. 1. Are the points or toes of the saddle tree.
2. 2. The breasts, which compose the sides of the arch, or fore bow of the saddle tree, which unite and form the pommel.
- The inner hollow, which leaves room for the horse's withers, is called the withers of the saddle.
3. 3. Are the points or toes of the hinder bow of the saddle tree.
4. The rising or cantle of the saddle tree.
5. 5. The points or toes of the hind bow of the saddle tree.
6. 6. The sides or limbs of the saddle tree.
7. The pommel, or collet, on which there is placed a stout rivetted iron band.
8. The trousequin or cushion of the after part.
9. The crupper buckle.
10. Straps which are passed through eyes or runners in the fore bow.

Fig. B. The under part of the saddle tree, with the webs stretched, the iron straps rivetted, and the buckles for different uses fixed.

1. The withers or hollow of the fore arch.
2. The hollow of the hind arch, in which the crupper buckle is fixed.
3. 3. The sides or limbs with rivetted iron straps continued all round.
4. The straps by which the pad, for carrying the cloak, is attached.
5. 5. The girth straps and buckles.

Fig. C. The saddle in profile, covered with leather.

1. The withers of the forebow.
2. The small flap or skirt.
3. The large flap or skirt.
4. The cantle.
5. The stirrup leather.
6. The seat.
7. The pommel.

Fig. D. The saddle reversed, presenting the pannel to the eye.

1. 1. The pannels or stuffed cushions which lie on the horse's back, and which are attached to the tree after it appears like fig. C.
2. The channel or gusset, being part of the same woollen cloth of which the pannels are made; but this part is not stuffed, in order to save the back of the horse from being rubbed.
3. The crupper buckle.
4. 4. The straps for the pad, fig. M.

Fig. E. the pistol holster.

1. The mouth of the holster.
2. The sloping or shoulder of the holster.
3. The pipe of the holster.
4. The strap by which the holster is attached to the saddle, uniting with another holster on the opposite side, passed over the pommel.
5. The strap by which the pipe of the holster is attached to the surcingle.
6. The strap by which the holster is attached to the saddle.

Fig. F. The stirrup.

1. The eye of the stirrup, through which the stirrup leather passes.
2. 2. The stirrup iron bows.
3. The foot piece, or bar, of the stirrup.
4. The buckle.

Fig. G. The breastplate or potrail.

1. The flasher.
2. The breast strap.
3. The centre buckle.
4. The straps which bind C, to the saddle B, 6. 6.

Fig. H. The crupper.

1. The strap which leads to the buckle in fig. A, 9.
2. The loop of the crupper.
3. The pudding.

Fig. K. The housing.

1. 1. The skirts of the housing.
2. 2. 2. 2. The points of the housing.
3. 3. The curve graduated to the saddle.
4. 4. The buckles by which the housing is attached to the saddle.
4. The straps which attached the housing to the crupper.
6. 6. The mounting or eye of the housing.
4. 4. The eye or stirrup staple, through which the stirrup leathers run.
5. 5. 5. 5. Other eyes and staples attached to the side of the tree, for the advantage of fixing straps for carabines, or musketoons, or fodder straps.
5. 6. Buckles in the points of the fore arch of the tree, to which the breast plate or potrail is affixed, and to which the pistol holster pipes may be affixed by straps and buckles.
7. The netting crossed to form the seat.

Fig. L. The surcingles.

Fig. M. The upper appearance of the pad with its straps and buckles.

Fig. N. The pad reversed.

1. 1. Show the stuffed cushions of the pad.
1. 3. The outer edges of the pad.
5. 3. The straps by which the pad is attached, as at fig. D, 4. 4.
4. The straps which attach the pad to the crupper, usually carry a runner.

Fig. O. The velisse with its straps.

Fig. P. The shoe strap and pocket.

1. The pocket to contain nails for shoeing the horse. The lappet of the pocket.
2. The horse shoe. The strap and buckle which retain the shoe above the top of the pocket.

## § 7. THE ACCOUTREMENTS OF THE HEAD.

Fig. 1. plate V, represents the watering bridle.

1. Is the upper centre of the head stall.
2. 2. The sides of the head stall.
3. The fillet or pointless band.
4. The reins.
5. The bridoon or snaffle.
6. The buckle of the rein.

Fig. 2. The bridoon bridle.

1. The crown of the head stall.
2. The frontlet or fillet.
3. The throat band.
4. The head stall checks.
5. The snaffle or bridoon.
6. The rings.
8. The reins.
9. 9. The knobs or knots of the reins.
10. 10. The buckles of the head stall and throat band.

Fig. 3. The collar or halter.

1. The throat band.
2. The buckle strap of the throat band.
3. The nose band.
4. The ring of the head and nose band.
5. The crown of the head stall.
6. The halter or rope.
7. 7. The cheeks of the collar.
8. The buckle.

Fig. 4. The bridle and bit.

1. The crown of the head stall.
2. The head stall buckles.
3. The throat band.
5. The fillet.
6. The nose band.
7. 7. The upper cheeks of the bit.
8. 8. The reins.
12. The joint of the bit.
13. 13. The lower cheeks or branches of the bit.
14. The curb chain.
15. The lip chain.
16. The eyes of the bit cheeks.
17. 17. The bosses or points of the cannon or mouth piece, where they unite with the cheeks of the bit.
18. The buckles of the head stall.
19. The curb chain hooks.
20. The dotted lines shew the form of the best sort of bit, with a mouth piece, as in page 18.

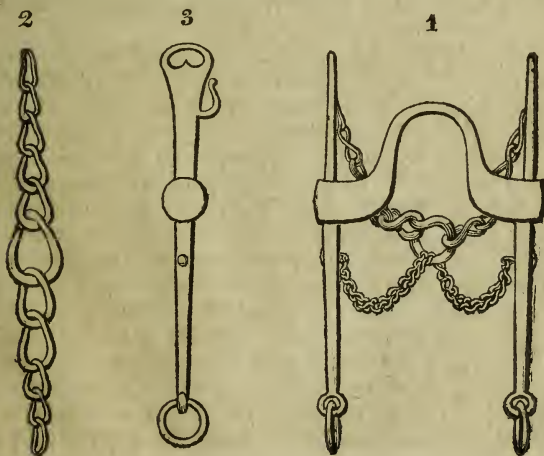
The following is the best form for the dragoon bit and curb, better than that in plate V. the joint in the bit of which is not considered as so well adapted to horses of every description.

Fig. 1. Shows the bit to the front, with the curb chain, and the beard or lip chain fixed. The forms of the mouth piece and of the branches are shown to the front, the room for the tongue to move in freely, not to be found in the jointed or hinge bit.

Fig. 2. Is the curb chain.

Fig. 3. Is one of the branches as seen from the side with the hook for the curb on the upper branch; and the hole on the lower branch to receive the lip chain.

The weight of this bit with the chains fixed may be about twelve ounces: The curb alone about three ounces; links broad and well bent, so as to lie flat. The smaller chain under an ounce weight, intended to prevent the horses from taking the branches in their mouths, which some will do, and they are found to be agreeable as well as ornamental to the horse.





## § 8. STABLE DUTIES.

The duties of the stable consist in feeding, cleaning, and attending to the health and comfort of the horse, providing his food, preparing his litter, and cleaning the stable, so that there shall be no uncleanness, nor offensive air from the stagnation of water, or other filth. The care of the quality of the food and the due apportionment of it according to the regulations established and the condition of the horse.

The dragoons are assembled before their quarters by the established sound of trumpet or bugle, and move to the stables in squads, and in their stable dress; the squad which has given one or more men in the detail of guard or other duties, must take charge of the horses of those who are detached from their squad on other duty; unless there are recruits or supernumerary men, who are always to be assigned to such duties.

Regularity and respect to time are as essential to the due care of the horse, as to the soldier. Stable hours should be, therefore, uniform and strictly observed; sun-rising is the best hour for the morning duties, summer and winter. The first care of the officer is to direct that the litter be well got up; that no horse is absent or has been injured during the night; to see how the rack stands as to hay or other forage. If the rack be full of hay and untouched, it is either of a bad quality, or the horse is overfed, or is sick, and the remedy is to provide clean hay, to feed moderately, or to report to the veterinary surgeon. If there be no hay in the rack he should be provided with about three pounds, more is not necessary, it should be good and loose shaken; and if it be very dry, to sprinkle it with water will make it pleasant to the horse. The officer of the day will then see that one fourth of the day's feed of oats or whatever food is allowed, be given to each horse.

While the horses are feeding, the stable is cleared out; the dry part of the litter is put up under the manger, the wet and decayed is forked or swept out to the dung heap.

When this is done, begin to clean the horse, commencing with the curry comb. This requires some judgment: the state of the horse's skin being more or less dirty, or the length of the hair, should determine both the length of the teeth of the currycomb and the portion of use of it. Always begin with the currycomb on the near hind quarter, proceeding downwards, careful that you loose the hair and do not wound the skin. Next proceed to the fillets, back, loins, flank, belly, shoulders, arms, breast, and neck, omitting no place that the curry comb can be applied to. After currying the near side, proceed to the off side, curry with the left hand, and proceed as with the near side. Then wisp the whole with two handfulls of clean straw, which, if it be fine weather, it will not be amiss to sprinkle lightly with clean water: begin with the wisp at the head, holding the nose with the left hand to keep the head steady, rub the forehead over the eye, behind and round the root of the ear, down the jaw, and particularly under the throttle.



Change position, and successively rub the neck, shoulders, under part of the neck, breast, between the fore legs, arms, knees, sinews and fetlocks ; applying the wisp hardest where you have not applied the currycomb ; you then proceed to the withers, under the elbow or arm, brisket, belly, flank, sheath, and between the thighs as far as practicable ; proceed to the hind quarters, under the tail, down the side sinews, and fetlock, inside and outside ; going through with one side of the horse and then with the other.

Proceed then with the brush, cleaning it with the currycomb as you proceed, beginning with the head and carrying your strokes with the natural direction of the hair. Finishing the near side first and ending with the off side, and using the left and right hand equally, according to the side and operation you are performing. The officer of the day will see that the work be not shammed over, nor conspicuous places alone rubbed ; examine between the fore arms, within the elbows, and see that there be no gumminess nor clamminess, but that all be clean and smooth ; under the flank and between the hind quarters must be free from dust and dirt, so as not to soil a cambric handkerchief. Rubbing with a hair cloth, or any cloth, linen or woollen, would be serviceable.

Comb the horse's mane and tail carefully, beginning at the points of the hairs, and separating them gradually, breaking no hairs ; wash the roots of the hairs of the mane and tail occasionally with soap and water, so as to leave no scruff or dirt near the roots ; and anoint the roots of the hair with clean hog's lard ; to make the tail grow long, wash it with soft water frequently in fair open weather, combing it carefully. The beauty of the horse is improved by the mane ; and the health and temper of the horse will be much promoted by the care of the tail and its growth.

Examine the horse's feet, and see that they be well cleaned, and if any dirt lie between the shoe and the sole, that it be picked out ; see that the shoes are firm, and if any of the nails are drawn by the growth of the foot, take care to report it to the farrier.

The dragoon cleans his accoutrements with a wet sponge, saddles, bridles, &c. from road dirt ; clean the bits with soap and water, and dry with whiting or chalk. Girths, dirty from the road, if of woollen or cotton, may be washed in soap and water. When the girths and stirrups are cleaned, buckle the girths round the saddle and flaps, and hang the saddle up by the stirrup irons, with the horse cloth over them to preserve from dirt. The morning stable duties are then discharged, and the men return to their quarters ; all this business may be dispatched in half an hour, or less than an hour when the horse is in the worst state after duty.

The stable duty is renewed at noon at every season of the year. Hay is put in the manger as in the morning ; and while he is eating clear away the dung and prepare for watering. This, as all other duties, is performed at trumpet sounding. The whole proceed by double files to the watering place ; and if the season be favorable, it will be useful and healthful to swim the horses ; the

whole return in good order to the stable. The feet are examined and picked: this is indispensable in frosty weather, as the snow will accumulate between the shoe and hoof and be as painful as a stone: it must be picked out. The horse is wiped down so as to remove any dirt acquired on the road to the watering place; and the noon stable work is completed.

The evening stable hour varies with the season and climate; it must be sufficiently early to be completed before dark. The manger is filled with hay, say six or seven pounds, or equal to the whole amount of the morning and noon feed; the litter is then spread clean and free from dirty or wet wisps; and oats equal to the feeds of morning and noon are placed in the manger. See that the stall collars and halters are secure, and be certain that oats, straw, and hay are brought to stable, for the next day; as it is preferable to be prepared with oats in the evening, in the event of any call during the night, when each man may carry in his nose bag, oat for the next day.

The practice of feeding in cantonments and on service, must of necessity differ, from the uncertainty of service in the field. It should be the study of the officer of dragoons to be prepared in time for this emergency; and to accustom his horse to a mixed diet; hay may be scarce, as in some parts of the southern states horses are fed on corn tops; oats may be not to be had, as is the case frequently in all parts of the union; the horse should therefore, when hay and oats are best and abundant, be prepared by diet for the change, as well for the preservation of the horse as the good of the service. For this purpose, every troop should have a machine to cut straw; it might be carried in the travelling forge, and should be constantly in use. Thus, besides the feed of oats, bran should be given (but seldom); it is a food that is cleansing, and when given as a mash, that is, in tepid water, is very acceptable to a fatigued horse.

Sudden changes in the aliment of horses, as well as of other animals, affect his health and temper. Horses at grass are purged and in good health. When they are returned from grass to the stable, care should be taken to provide green well savored hay if possible; and there are few parts of the country, unless in the depth of winter, where the common *field grass roots* may not be obtained with a little trouble.

The horses of Arabia and India are fed in the stable with *grass roots* and *pease*. In their military establishments, every troop has a *grass cutter* for every four horses; the duty of the grass cutter is, with a small spear shaped instrument to turn up the grass roots, collect, wash them, and deliver a certain proportion daily for each horse.

Horses will eat beans and peas; the fine horses of India are fed altogether upon *grey pease* and *grass roots*; no oats are used in that country; the pease are placed in soft water for a few hours, until they may be masticated without difficulty, and are placed in

the nose bag with a tea spoon full of salt, and sometimes in warm weather powdered ginger a tea spoon full.

Beans are also a very common food for horses in Germany, France, and England; they may be prepared in the same way.

Indian corn should be prepared by steeping also, when necessity requires it to be given; but Indian meal in a bran mash for a sick horse or an overworked horse, would be a powerful restorative.

With the feed of oats it should be a constant practice to mix at least one third of cut *wheaten* straw; or oaten or barley straw when the wheaten cannot be procured; corn tops, when to be had, should be cut like straw, of about an inch and a half long; if longer, there will be little advantage, if shorter than an inch, it will be easily blown away by the breath of the horse. Hay should be cut in the same manner, and about one half or one third of the feed given; that is, when oats are given, the weight of three quarts of oats and one or two of cut hay or cut straw.

Water the horse whenever practicable with fair running water; wash at every stream you pass if it does not interfere with duty; and let the horse have a little water every time he chooses to take it on the road; but not too much at a time.

Treat the horse with apples or carrots, from the hand, whenever you can; but a few apples at a time.

On a march and in wet weather, or when the horse is languid and fatigued, one or two tea spoons full of powdered ginger will serve the horse, among his oats; and one or two of the almond sized red peppers, or cayenne peppers, will be cheering and grateful to the horse. This is not usually practised, but it is the long tried experience of the author of this Hand Book.





## CHAPTER II.

## § 1. THE MANAGEMENT AND TRAINING OF THE HORSE.

THE horse cannot be too much valued : our most faithful servant in peace, and protector in war ; he administers to our pleasures and to our interests ; he is the economist of our precious time ; he diminishes our toil and shortens the distance of our journies ; he conserves our health and cultivates our soil ; he participates with man in all the perils and dangers of war : accustomed to the din of arms, he snorts and trembles with enthusiasm, and vies with man in all the hazards and daring of conflict, and in the fury of action the spirit stirring drum and the ear piercing fife, the shrill trumpet, the pattering and whistling of small shot, and the thunder of artillery, animate him....undaunted as his rider, he catches his enthusiasm and plunges into the midst of dangers...braves and overcomes them : and still he is as tractable to the hand of his rider as in the ambling of private pleasure. His attachment and obedience is equal to that of the dog ; such indeed is the temper of the horse, that he appears only to consult how and how much he shall please, and even to anticipate the wishes of the rider, *whose kindness he knows*....every impression he receives finds a responsive and implicit obedience....he darts forward....checks his ardor...or stops with the slightest touch of the hand *with which he is acquainted* ; and appears either to find no other pleasures, or to renounce every other, in being the medium of utility, safety, and gratification of the human species *when they are only kind and not cruel to him*.

The intention of training the horse is the same as that of the discipline of the soldier ; to form his habits to implicit obedience, by the practice of means adapted to the purpose ; beside this, the training produces vigor and health when judiciously conducted, his muscles and joints are suppled, and he becomes active and elastic. The rider must know how he ought to move....and what he can do when required ; and have him so much in command as that by the slightest motion made after the established method, the horse shall, as if by instinct, execute what is required of him. The necessity of one uniform system, instead of the variety of means used in different states and by different men who act without method, will be perceived at once, if it be considered that the

military horse is subject to change his rider frequently, though it should be a rule never to separate the rider from the horse when avoidable, because, the man as well as the horse, when the latter is well treated, and when the man feels the spirit which ought to actuate a soldier, become attached to each other; the difference of the tempers of men may place a man of a bad temper in charge of a good horse and spoil both.

Our horses are usually fit for the saddle at three and a half years old, and at that age may be brought by proper treatment to perform whatever can be required of them.

## § 2. DRILLS CONDUCTED BY OFFICERS.

Every officer, from the colonel to the cornet, should be perfect master of every part of the elementary instructions, and of the general system of exercises and duties on foot and on horseback.

The commanding officer of every corps is himself responsible not only for the good conduct and discipline of the officers under him, but for that neglect or indifference to duty, which points out a man unfit for the station of an officer. The best school of experience for a young officer is the practical drill; there he learns to use his voice and his judgment, and he acquires the habit of command; which is never to be obtained without practice. Every officer on joining his corps should himself pass through a strict drill, and a course of actual performance of every duty of non-commissioned officers, beginning with the corporal, going on to that of a serjeant, quarter-master, the serjeant-major, orderly and pay serjeants; visit the parades of guard, and note the duties that are performed there, and the manner of posting and relieving centinels.

He should attend at the stables every morning, at noon, and evening, at the time of cleaning, feeding, watering, and littering the horses; he should enquire into the quantity and kind of food they eat, how and when they are shod; the state of the saddles, bridles, and mode of treatment and preservation; the quality of hay and oats; and every particular that relates to the horse and military accoutrements; and take lessons from the riding master and master of the sword frequently.

He must learn the use of the firelock, pistol, sabre, and spadroon; and take charge of a drill as soon as he has seen and acquired an adequate knowledge of the first exercises under the direction of his captain or some capable superintending officer, who will guard him against teaching erroneously.

## § 3. NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

The efficiency of every military corps depends so much on the excellence of the non-commissioned officers, that whenever one is found, the judicious officer will not fail to convince him that his merits are known and fairly valued; the officer will always find it his advantage in duly noticing and respecting good non-commis-

sioned officers, and this notice will be a sure means of encouraging emulation, and establishing confidence and respect....considerations too little regarded in discipline.

The non-commissioned officer must be acquainted with the most minute details of duty, and capable of executing every particular; he must know the qualities and properties of the horse, his good and bad points, the proper name of every part of the horse, and how to know his age; the accidents to which the health of the horse is exposed; the shoeing of the horse, and how the horse may be affected by bad shoeing; the name and use of every accoutrement, and of every distinct part of it; when it fits well or ill, and the effect of a bad fitting, as when the bridle bit or the bridoon is too large or too small for the mouth; when the head stall or the throat band is too long or too short; when the curb is too loose or too tight; the effect of a saddle too broad or too narrow in the tree or pannel; when the eye of the crupper is too large or too small, or the crupper stall too long or too short; what is the effect of a loose saddle on the horse's back in exercise; the effect of long and short stirrups; he should know how to dress his horse; to cherish the hoof when dry or diseased; to preserve the tail of his horse and nourish its thickness and length; the careful dressing of his mane, and the cleaning of the barb, and crest, on the opening of the spring; he should make it his duty to see the horses well kept, that they be not treated with cruelty or barbarity, but cherished and occasionally treated with a carrot, apple, or sweet potatoe; to encourage the horse and to give a good example to the younger soldiers.

He should practise and become a good swordsman with the sabre and straight broad sword; he should be a good pistol shot, and know the value of a steady hand; he should study and perfect himself as a rider, and have a firm and sensible bridle hand; he should be exemplary in the neatness of his person, the performance of his word of promise, and the discharge of his duty; he should never promise what he does not know he can do, and he should never fail to do what he has promised. Punctuality in quarters is as necessary and important to officers, commissioned and non-commissioned, as precision and promptness in squadron and evolution...it *determines the character of a man very advantageously*. Too little regard has been paid to inspire the soldier with the sense of personal honor, but its importance every officer and man of discernment must perceive. Soldiers become vicious from being ill treated or thought little of; respect them, and they will be respectable; and respect will be reciprocated to the great advantage of the corps, in which these precepts are honestly and skilfully inculcated and enforced.

The non-commissioned officer must be exact in the care of his apparel, and in the manner of packing them for the march: for if he be slovenly, the privates will with some reason, plead his



example. The same remarks will apply to the conduct and capacity of non-commissioned officers on duty, which also points out the importance of appointing none to the rank of corporal or serjeant, but such as shall by their example prove their merit by an exact and prompt performance of duty.

The same rules apply to the chief musicians, farriers, &c.

#### § 4. FIRST MANEGE DRILLS.

Good temper, patience, and a constant consideration that the horse is an animal which cannot receive exact ideas by the articulation of language, are necessary to the instruction and due management of the horse. What he is required to know and do, he cannot be made acquainted with in the same manner as human beings; it is by repeated practice of what is required, and the expression of satisfaction, and the bestowing of rewards, and caresses, and approbation, that the horse is to be taught. Ill treatment and cruelty may spoil the best tempered horse, and make him obstinate and vicious.

A very celebrated horseman\* said, that there was "*naturally* no ill tempered or vicious horse;" and that the vices of horses are to be attributed wholly to the cruelty with which they are treated, and by the brutality of those called rough riders, who are usually employed to *break them in*, a term truly significant. There can be no question that the horse is susceptible of attachment to man, sensible of caresses and kindness, as well as of cruelty and anger.

Horses having but few objects to occupy attention, possess very tenacious memories....they seldom forget either *good* or *bad* usage; those who act with inhumanity they obey reluctantly; those who treat them well, are always repaid by obedience and ready action.

Horses cannot be expected to learn much in one day or in a short time; and like men, their attention and spirit are broken by excess; the lessons should be short, and repeated at intervals, such as shall give rest and time for reflection; for it is the vanity of man alone, that can deny to those sagacious animals the power of reasoning and reflection to a certain extent; the very existence of memory is an evidence of reason. A horse any more than a boy should be never oppressed with learning more than one thing at a time.

The necessity of obtaining a decided control and command over the horse, by the soldier who rides him, is determined by a consideration of the *service* in which he has to be engaged, and the futility or ruin that must be the effect of a want of that power. What cannot be accomplished by speech or reasoning, must be sought by other means, since it is absolutely indispensable that the "personal motions of the horse be governed by the rider's spirit"....that is, by his skill and temper: the rider therefore has

\* Earl of Pembroke.

to learn to govern the horse, and so to govern himself that the horse shall act with ease and certainty.

To train a horse there must be provided a species of stout bridle called a *cavesson*, which is only a very strong head stall and bands, and of which the nose band must be particularly strong, and thereto attached a stout iron ring, to hold a line or rein, of sufficient strength and length. This is technically called the *longe*, from the long rein of line by which the horse is moved in the circle. A good bridoon with a mouthing snaffle should be placed in his mouth. of a size no larger than that which is to be used on service ; and a broad surcingle with a roller on his back, to which should be affixed a hook ; and the reins of the bridle carried over his head and attached to that hook. If it be found necessary two buckles may be affixed to the surcingle at each side, so that reins may be held thereto for the management of the head ; if the horse be of suitable temper a crupper may be attached to this roller or pad.

The horse should be carefully led to the place of exercise, which may be an airy piece of ground, from ten to thirty yards diameter ; and care should be taken that his stomach be not too much loaded with food or water. He should be approached with care and tenderness, with kind sounds, a cheerful temper and tone of voice, of which the horse is perfectly sensible ; a skilful teacher will give him as rewards pieces of raw carrot or sweet apple. If he has had the misfortune of a master of a different temper before, beware of the horse, until by acquaintance he has discovered good temper in you, and that you are not another cruel and ungrateful enemy.

Nothing should be exacted from the horse in training beyond his strength and experience : correction never to be resorted to but in the last extremity.

Two instructors are necessary for the first lessons, the one to hold the line or rein near the horse and follow his movements, the other to go after him with the *chambriere* which he must avoid using without necessity

He must then be led by the hand round a circle of twenty or thirty yards diameter to the right, that is with his off side to the centre, the assistant not letting the rein go until ordered ; when he appears to see where he is going, and to walk with ease and without alarm, he may be let to move in the hand of the teacher at a short length of the *cavesson* line

If he should make any attempt to be restive or to plunge, the word *halt* should be given, and he should have his head held up and be spoken to angrily ; but no use of the whip ; there is no danger of his misapprehension of anger or caresses ; and a little practice will show it.

The instructor holding the *chambriere* will show it to the horse, or touch him with it on his side ; as the horse becomes more

confident, more liberty will be given him ; the instructor holding the leading line, will place himself in the centre of the circle, the horse will be made to trot several rounds, according to the manner required ; if, instead of trotting, he should gallop, the cavesson line will be gently shaken, which is to be performed by an easy movement by the person holding the line ; this jerk is to be made horizontally, not perpendicularly.

The horse should be frequently *halted* by command, and when obedient to be caressed ; this rest will also be made use of to teach him to step backwards, for which purpose the cavesson will be gently shaken ; if he be not obedient, he must be touched with the switch on the fore legs, and stopped after a few steps ; no attention need be paid at first whether the horse go straight backwards or not straight ; if he should still refuse, the reins of the bridle will be taken, keeping them in hand until he goes back, and if he be tardy or intractable, the stroke of the switch to be redoubled.

After a few lessons in these movements for a week or ten days the horse will have more knowledge of what is required of him to be done ; and he improves constantly, if he be only not treated with cruelty.

#### § 5. SECOND MANEGE DRILLS.

Some horses may be at once saddled with the crupper, and the bridle attached to the saddle ; the instructor will be able to judge and determine as to this upon acquaintance with each several horse. Care must be taken that the surcingle be not too tight, lest it make the horse uneasy and restive, and the uneasiness of the horse be attributed to any other than the true cause. The bridle reins should not be too tight at first, and they may be buckled by having the rein of the near side shorter about a foot from the mouth to the withers ; and the off rein longer. As the horse goes into practice in the circle, if he does not carry his head sufficiently high, the rein should be gradually shortened a hole or two ; but never so short as that he may not bear lightly on the snaffle.

The horse will be made to trot alternately to both hands, that is, he will often be stopped, and each time be made to go back as far as has been prescribed, and he will be gently turned in the opposite direction to that in which he last moved, and in the following manner : the instructor holding the longe line is to slacken by degrees the pace of the horse, coiling the line on his left hand and shortening his hold until he approaches the horse's head, then to stop and caress him ; the instructor holding the *chambriere* is to change sides, when the one holding the longe line with the left hand nearer the horse than with the right hand, will give more liberty. The horse will be held in the hand in which he can be best managed. When he has executed a few rounds at a correct walk, the horse may be by a judicious horizontal shake of the line,



and always with the command of the voice *forward*, encrease his speed; and when this has been executed for some time, and it is required to *halt*, the officer gives the rein a perpendicular shake, and the word *halt*, at the same time, which if he does not at first understand and obey, must be patiently repeated and practised till it be acquired; violence or blows will not teach a thing of this kind; a tap of the drum or a flourish of the trumpet or bugle, may also be employed to direct the halt; and when the horse has performed well, he should be caressed and rewarded.

After he has acquired a due knowledge of the walk and trot, and been accustomed to those exercises with the near side to the centre of the circle, the side should be changed, and the same course pursued with the off side to the centre. It may be observed as a general rule, that for military service a horse cannot carry his head too high.

The hand of the teacher who holds the cavesson line should be skilful, and great attention should be paid to the mouth so as to feel and ease it occasionally. Half an hour or three quarters of an hour is amply sufficient for these exercises at one time; that is, the lessons should continue five or six minutes if well performed; and then the horse to be rewarded with caresses, and the lesson repeated in an opposite direction, followed again by rewards; he should be then led to the stable.

Another rule should be always observed, that in moving in the circle, the body of the horse should move along the line of the circle, without inclining the croup outward in any degree; that is outward from the centre of the circle; the head will necessarily incline inward, but it must be by the action of the neck; and attention is more particularly required to this, in proportion as the circle is small.

#### § 6. THIRD MANEGE DRILLS.

The first course of drills must have made a sensible effect before any thing new is attempted; when improvement is perceptible, after placing the bridle, cavesson, and surcingle as before, the horse is led to the circle, and practised at the walk and brought to the trot; brought again to the walk, and on both sides of the circle, taking care if he works better on one hand than on the other, to give him more practice on the hand upon which he works heaviest. Taking care frequently to halt him in the walk and in the trot; approaching him and caressing him; four or five days, twice or thrice a day, will produce the desired effect.

The trot ought to be equal, that is to say, in equal spaces of time equal spaces of ground are to be passed over, it ought to be lengthened, not, however, too much.

When the horses are accustomed to the longe and have become very docile, they will be mounted for the longe, going first in a walk, then trotting; the celerity of the pace to be increased as they become more docile.

Each exercise will be continued but a short time, in order not to fatigue the horses, making them pass successively from walk to trot, and from trot to walk.

As long as the horses are kept in the longe, the intervals between the exercises will be such as are prescribed in the first manege drill.

When the horses trot with ease, they will be exercised in the general exercise, performing all that is prescribed in the preceding drills.

It will now be time to bring the horse to the third natural pace, the gallop. If the first lessons have been well conducted, he will be easily brought to the gallop; and if he does not gallop at his ease and voluntarily, by no means press him; but upon all occasions take care that in moving off he leads with the leg next to the centre of the circle. If he leads with the wrong leg, he must be checked, by shaking the cavesson line perpendicularly, and brought again to the ring, and exercised till he acquires the habit of leading properly. Three or four days will serve for these exercises.

#### § 7. FOURTH MANEGE DRILLS.

The first movements of the walk, trot, and gallop; repeated halts and renewals of action, being practised, it will be time to teach the horse to passage; which is moving either to the right or left, side ways, by crossing the legs from one side towards the side moved upon. This is best accomplished by placing the horse close to a wall or close fence; and by commencing with passaging to the right. The principal teacher should be on his near side, close to the shoulder, having the eye of the snaffle in his left hand, and his right arm over the horse's neck, holding the off rein and leading that way, pressing the horse from him; the assistant stands at the same time towards the horse's rear near side, and by moving the *chambriere* on the ground, indicates to the horse that attention to the motion of the hind legs, which, after a little practice, he will cross alternately, in the same direction as the fore legs. The opposite course will be resorted to for teaching the passage to the left side. A few movements only should be made at first, and the horse should then be halted; then tried again and halted; reined back and brought forward a few steps, and passaged again. Should the horse not have been cruppered before this drill, this is the proper period of doing it; and of bringing four horses into the ring.

#### § 8. FIFTH MANEGE DRILLS.

The same practice should now be pursued with four horses, in the walk, the trot, and the gallop; halting at the perpendicular shaking of the longe line; and moving at command; and he should be taught to stand the noise of drums, trumpets, and the fire of small arms. These objects are very easily and certainly accomplished, if managed with address and patience. The drum or

trumpet sound might always be made to precede his feed ; and a flash of priming from a pistol may be constantly used for several days at the same time ; it may be followed by a small explosion without wadding ; the unloaded pistol may be laid in the manger with his feed, and frequently the flint snapped to give fire while he feeds ; and accompanied by caresses and kind sounds of the voice.

Sub-officers should be provided with the cartridges of powder, with which they should load their pistols and fire them on returning from the exercises or the stables to quarters, the fatigue of the lesson having rendered the horse more calm and feeding in better temper ; at the commencement some intervals are to be observed between the discharges, as the young horses become more steady the discharges are to be oftener repeated.

The handling of arms on horseback is also to be performed by those charged with breaking the young horse. When accustomed to the noise of arms, the horsemen will load and fire on horseback, pausing at each discharge to quiet the horse.

This lesson is to be given with the greatest precaution, observing to suspend it when the horses become settled, and not to continue or augment the fire or the noise, which may frighten them, but to be regulated in this respect according to the effect, greater or less, which it produces on them.

If among the number of young horses there should be some so ungovernable, as habitually to be restive in the troop upon training in the fire, they are to be put in the stable before the lesson is commenced, which has been detailed ; every morning and evening they are separately to be habituated to the discharge of arms while eating their oats ; when more tranquil they are to be led into the open air, pistols are to be discharged at a distance, giving them oats and caressing them, in order to quiet them.

They are by degrees to be led nearer the noise, when beginning to be habituated thereto they are to be put into the rank to receive, while mounted the same instructions as the others.

The same practices may be carried to the circle, where it may be gradually encreased to the explosion of squibs and pistols, and the beating of drums at the same time ; the glistening of bright arms should be also introduced at suitable seasons, and the horse should be accustomed to the barking of dogs, and not to be affected by it ; bannerols, or flags, of different colors, should be also introduced and cast about in various directions, until at length the horse shall not be moved by their flapping on his face or eyes ; and, by degrees, he may be brought to stand unmoved by any object of sight or hearing.

When the young horses are no longer frightened by the discharge of carabines or pistols fired one after the other, some dragoons should be placed at some distance on foot ; the squad of young horses to be formed at the other extremity and marched forward slowly towards the men on foot, who should fire several



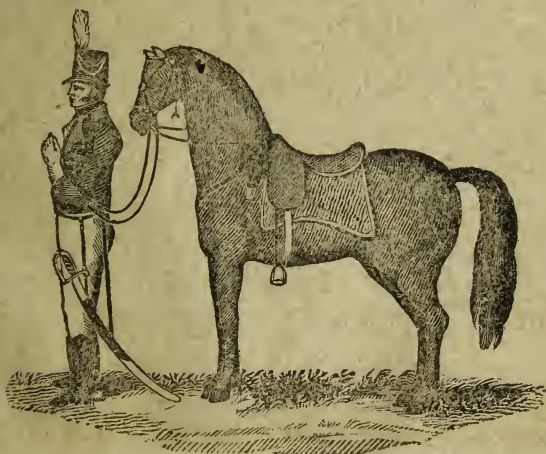
times without pausing ; when the platoon is twenty-five paces from them, they should cease firing, the young horses continuing their march until arrived at the horsemen on foot, when they should be stopped and caressed. Practices of this kind should be common to every troop of a regiment.

Commanding officers should be present at all these exercises and direct them, in order to be assured that they are given with care and occasion no disorder.

The horsemen must take great care that their horses be not pricked with the grains of powder.

Every dragoon, when he comes to practise the mounted drills equipped, should be provided with a pair of handsome short *cuff-gloves*, or gauntlets, of buff leather, with a loop and button to each ; one loop of which, run through the other, secures them on a hook of the size and form of the curb chain hook, which should be affixed to the saddle in front of the left holster, when the troop is dismounted ; or to the waist belt, behind the first strap of the sabre ; where they may be carried in safety, and put on the hands as soon as the corps is mounted.

Every dragoon should also be provided with a good buff sword strap and knot ; the strap in the double about nine inches long, exclusive of the knot ; when the sabre is worn the knot must be affixed to it, and the strap cast upon the wrist when the sword is drawn, so that if it be required to draw a pistol, it may be accomplished without returning the sword to the scabbard, by letting the sabre fall gently to the right, suspended by the strap. The hand is then at liberty, and as soon as the pistol is returned, the sword is recovered by an under hand grasp. The strap gives great force to the blow of the sabre, and secures it from being beaten out of the hand.



## CHAPTER III.

## § 1. FIRST MOUNTED DRILL.

BY the time the horse circles with freedom and has come under command ; he lifts his feet actively, and changes his pace fast or slow as required, and without bearing heavy on the hand. After circling a few times, four expert horsemen are brought to mount them.

The horseman on leading his horse from the stable is equipped only in his undress, that is his watering jacket, pantaloons, and cap ; the horse in the watering bridle or bridoon, and with a clean horse cloth, which must be well girthed ; he holds the rein on his left arm, the double of the rein clenched, having about six inches length beyond his left hand, which is placed on his breast, the right hand falling by his side. In this position he stands about two feet in front of his horse's head ; his body and his limbs adjusted, and at ease as on the infantry parade, and waits for the precaution.

*Attention.*

At this word his body is placed erect, easy but firm ; the right hand falls at ease by his side, the middle finger about the seam of the pantaloons ; his eyes look to the front about twenty paces ; his feet gently turned outward ; the body erect, the breast shall be well to the front, so that the whole weight of the body shall be poised on the fore part of the feet. The instructor will then give such directions as to the exercises which are to be performed, as he shall deem necessary ; he will state the nature of the words of *precaution, preparation, direction, and execution* ; and the necessity of an undivided attention to the duty in hand ; the instruction must proceed gradually and with the utmost exactness, both in the manner and in the time of performing every part of the exercise. That as the drills now begun, have entire relation to the manner of exercise with the horse ; the recruit on receiving the word *attention*, will place himself in a proper position, and wait for the word, *prepare to mount* ; he will attend particularly to the instruction. Nothing superfluous or unnecessary is admitted in these exercises ; and they must be unremittingly practised until the habit is so completely confirmed in the performance and in the manner required, as that it will be inconvenient to perform

them in any other manner. The officer then gives the word of preparation:

*The squad will prepare to take horse.*

*To horse.*

Each horseman will come to the left about in three paces, as at *marked time*; and pass to the left of the horse's head.

Raise the right hand and pass the reins over the right ear of the horse, separating the two reins with the thumb, the back of the right hand up, and place the reins on the neck.

Take two steps towards the left shoulder of the horse, face to the horse, bring the heels close without letting go the reins.

Raise the reins with the right hand the length of the arm, let the left hand slide along the reins on the neck of the horse, pass the little finger of the left hand between the two reins, taking hold of the mane with the other fingers of the same hand, but holding the reins with them at the same time.

Drop the doubled ends of the reins from the right hand over to the right side of the horse, sustain the fore part of the right arm on the back of the horse, the left hand on the withers.

### *Mount.*

The horseman must raise himself briskly by the two wrists, and the spring of his feet, so as to place his body across the horse.

This must be an act of agility, which the young horseman should practise privately and frequently.

Pass the right leg over the croup of the horse, without touching it; placing himself erect with as much ease as possible on the horse.

### § 2. POSITION MOUNTED.

The head easy, and free on the shoulders. *Plate VII. fig. 1.*

The shoulders gently drawn back, the breast forward, the arms unconstrained, the elbows bending without stiffness.

The buttocks firm, flat, and close on the seat, the body well balanced on the horse; the breast rather forward; the loins straight, firm, and well sustained; the upper part of the body easy, free, and perpendicular, so that the man shall be kept in his position by his own well balanced weight. The thighs equally embracing the horse, ought to have their inner sides turned to the horse from the hips to the knees, extended.

The bend of the knees gentle without stiffness.

The legs free, suspended naturally by their own weight.

The toes falling in the same manner without stiffness in the instep.

A rein of the bridle in each hand; the fingers closed, the backs of the fingers to the front; the thumb extended on each rein pointing forward over the fore finger of each hand; the wrists at



the same height with the elbow, and separated six inches from each other; the fingers opposite each other.

The horses continue to be led by the cavesson if they do not move freely and manageable; if they move well at command, they may go by the hand of the rider, and move at the word :

*Forward....march.*

Keeping the length of a horse apart.

After circling with sufficient ease, the cavessons are taken off, and the drill conducted thenceforth by the hand of the rider; this is called going at large; beginning with a steady walk, then a gentle trot, and changing the pace, walk or trot, alternately, without halting.

### § 3. THE BRIDLE.

The principal concern of a good horseman is the sensibility of the horse's mouth...that is, the knowledge of the effect which the action of the bit, and bridoon snaffle, have on the horse's mouth when acted upon by the hand of the rider. This cannot be perfectly acquired but by practice, and all that instruction can do is to facilitate the means of discovering it, and how to guard against abusing or losing it, or ruining or injuring the horse by mistaking or disregarding it.

Something will also depend upon the quality of the bridle, or rather of the bit and bridoon. The horses of the United States, whether through the effect of climate or better treatment, are not so difficult to be taught as in other countries....they are backed much earlier than in some parts of Europe, though not earlier than in Persia and India.

The horse's teeth occupy only the fore space of the mouth, behind the teeth that part called in the human mouth the gums, and which are without teeth in the horse, these parts at the two sides are called *the bars*, and it is by the sensibility of the *bars* that the *aspui* or *touch* of the horse, so important in the management of this precious animal, is performed. "Delicacy," says that eminent horseman the earl of Pembroke, "in the use of the hands, as well as of the legs, may be given by the teacher in a certain degree; but it is nature that gives sensibility in its perfection. A hand should be firm, but delicate; a horse's mouth should never be surprized by any sudden transition, either from a slack to a tight reign. Every thing in horsemanship must be effected by degrees."

### BRIDLING THE HORSE.

In bridling the horse, the bit and bridle may be put on together; the snaffle bridle uppermost always. The head band of the bridle and bridoon must be carefully of the proper length, so that the mouth piece be neither too high nor too low, nor the corners of the mouth puckered.

The throat band must be so loose as to leave the head unconstrained in any position, and respiration free. The mouth piece of a bit should not be too small, nor longer than the horse's mouth is broad, nor should it be rough. Mistaken men have invented a kind of twisted snaffle and bit, the only effect of which is to lacerate the horse's mouth, and either to ruin the horse or deprive his mouth of all sensibility. The curb chain should be broad and flat, and neither tight nor loose, but just to admit a finger to pass freely between it and the mouth. A bit should be as pleasant as possible to the horse—if it hurts or annoys him, it takes off attention from slight movements of the hand, and makes him restive. No horse can run away with the rider if his head be kept up, and the bit acts on the bars—but if the bit cuts and torments him, he will throw his nose up, and the bit falling on the corners of the mouth does not act on the bars, and the horse is then out of the power of the rider.

#### § 4. BRIDLE DRILL.

##### THE FIVE POSITIONS OF THE BRIDLE HAND.

The left hand has the charge of managing the horse; and as the right hand cannot assist in managing the horse during action, the greater care is required in the proper use of the bridle hand. The first care is the manner of holding the bridle and placing of the reins in the hand; it is therefore necessary to describe the various positions of the hand.

The arm should fall naturally from the shoulder to the elbow; the elbow should not touch nor pass behind the body; the lower arm should be horizontal, and in such a direction as, without touching the body, to bring the hand directly over the pommel, from four to six inches above the pommel and the like distance from the body; it is shifted in the following positions according as the intention of each requires it.

*First position of the bridle hand....* The back of the hand is in the direction of the horse's head, the finger nails towards the rider's body; the reins are separated by the little finger, and the ends of the reins fall over the fore finger, where they are held by the pressure of the thumb upon the fore finger. In this position the hand is placed when the horse is standing or moving forward, without inclining to the right or left, or moving the hand up or down; but poised about six inches from the body and from the pommel of the saddle.

*The second position* turns the back of the hand upward so as to relax the reins and ease the mouth, either to halt or move forward; this is usually accompanied by the aid of a gentle pressure of the legs on the horse's sides.

*The third position* is the opposite position of the hand to the second; the hand here is so reversed that the back of the hand is undermost, whereby the simple turning gives a short check to

the rein, by which the horse may be brought from a quick to a slower pace or halted. The attention bestowed on the first practice of the use of the bridle hand will be of great importance, as every movement of the horse should be governed by touches as small and light as are here indicated.

*The fourth position* carries the left hand with the back upwards, in the direction of the little finger or to the left, raising the hand a little ; by this movement the horse will turn his *forehead* somewhat to the left, and when it is required that it should be much or continued, the *aid* of the leg produces that effect.

*The fifth position* carries the bridle hand to the right side of the neck over the pommel, with the back of the hand under ; the aid of the leg may continue it.

The action of the left hand, with the arrangement of the reins, cannot be too much regarded....the hand should be as delicate or sensible to the touch as the mouth of the horse, and the rider who pays due attention to it will find the advantage of it. The right arm will at times *aid* the left ; the firmness of the shoulder joint, and the flexibility of the wrist and elbow, will contribute to the perfection of this necessary part of the duty of the horseman. But the uniform position of the bridle hand, when not making any of the extra movements, is over the pommel of the saddle about six inches....the lengthening and shortening for motions of the horse must proceed from the action of the shoulder, elbow, and wrist.

It will be required to practice a few drills to *lengthen* the reins of the bridle, the command will be given :

### *Attention.*

*Take care to lengthen reins.*

The arms are elevated, so that the fore arms are horizontal, the elbows down, but the hind arm somewhat disengaged from the body, so as to give the whole of the muscles a balanced action ; the wrists bent and the fingers under, with the backs of the hands upward ; the rein is seized with the fore finger and thumb of the right hand, and the reins are then placed between the fingers of that hand so as to be drawn or passed through the fingers of the left hand backward or forward ; while the right hand holds the reins firmly and so as to be ready to use the left hand as a lever by which to draw or let loose the reins. At the word *lengthen*, the left hand fingers relax their hold, and the right admits them to pass through to the required length, drawing both hands towards the body by the acute bending of the elbows and the flexible action of the wrists, the reins are shortened or lengthened without altering the erect and balanced position of the body or moving in the saddle.

*Lengthen...reins.*



With the thumb and fore finger of the right hand, a little above the grasp of the left hand, take hold of the left rein. Open the left hand, let the reins slip into the right hand; the right hand then slips upon both reins the required length, then grasp the reins with the left hand firmly; the reins being sufficiently lengthened, resume the position in which the reins were at first held, only at the required length.

*Attention.*

*Take care to shorten reins.*

The right hand lays hold of the reins collectively and retains them; the left arm is straightened, and the left hand slides briskly forward, the reins passing through the fingers to the distance required, when the reins are seized firmly by the left hand, and the right hand takes its hold of the reins shorter.

The motions being performed, the right hand when disengaged is always suffered to fall gently by the right side. The word is given:

*Shorten....reins.*

The right hand retaining the right rein in the hinder part of the hand; with the thumb and fore finger of the right hand, seize the left rein above the left hand; open the left hand, let the rein slide through the left hand, which will be extended forward two or three inches, and there grasped; then close the left hand rein, and seize the right rein with the right hand as before, and resume the original position.

To cross the reins into the left hand, the instructor will command:

*Attention.*

*Take care to cross reins....to the left.*

This exercise consists in turning the left wrist so that the hand shall be downward, and place the right hand under the left, so that the right rein shall come between the third and fourth finger. The word is given:

*To the left....cross reins.*

Turn the left wrist a little; pass the right rein to the left hand, and place it under the left rein, so that the upper rein come out of the left hand on the side of the little finger. Drop the right hand easily by the right side.

To cross the reins into the right hand, the instructor will command:

*Attention.*

*To the right....cross reins.*

Turn the right wrist a little; pass the left rein to the right hand, and place it under the right rein, so that the upper end of the rein

come out of the right hand on the side of the little finger. Let the left hand fall easily by the side.

Turn the right wrist so that the hand shall be under, bring the left beneath the right hand, and place the left rein between the third and fourth finger of the right hand.

The reins are replaced in each hand by the order, part reins.

### *Attention.*

### *Part reins.*

Seize with the right hand the rein of the right side, and with a rein in each hand lying over the fore finger of each hand and held firm by the thumb of each hand; the hands are held about six inches from each other, from the body, and from the pommel of the saddle, the nails of the fingers towards the body.

## § 5. THE SADDLE.

The form of the saddle should be that which unites the greatest ease to the horse and to the rider, with the greatest convenience and advantage for military purposes.

The saddle at present in use in the United States' army is not well adapted for military service, the tree is by much too narrow and it is altogether too heavy for the cavalry service of the United States: but as this work is not intended to teach the art of saddle making, it is sufficient to mention the fact; and to proceed with the instructions requisite for using the saddle, equally answering for the present or a more perfect saddle.

## SADDLING THE HORSE.

The young horseman should be taught to saddle his horse in such a way as not to pinch or bruise the *withers*; and this caution should be repeated daily until it becomes a part of the rider's habit of thinking. The saddle should be placed between four and five inches behind the withers, and the crupper being put on should be so buckled, as to prevent the saddle while ungirthed from falling forward, but the crupper should be so adjusted that it shall not stretch too tight when the saddle is girthed. Some horses are subject to violent sores from bad fitting and a too severe tightness of the crupper.

If the crupper becomes tight after the man has mounted, it is a sure proof that the saddle does not fit, and it should be altered without delay.

The young horseman should be cautioned against suffering any buckles resting against the horse's skin; and as the horseman should have a pad attached to his saddle to carry his necessities and forage, care should be taken that this pad be properly stuffed and adjusted to the shape of the horse, so as not to gall or rub him in any one place.

The valse or portmanteau should be strong and weather proof, of a square form, bottom of light durable wood, sides of firm leather, to buckle by two straps, and two larger spare straps to carry his cloak and forage or other necessities on particular marches.

The holsters of military saddles require a total alteration, and the object may be accomplished with very little trouble. As at present there is no certainty of the ball remaining after loading and returning to the holster; and examples of the most serious consequence could be adduced to verify the deficiency of the present holster. The pistol holster should be so formed as that the barrels with the muzzles up should lie in an angle of between 40 and 45 degrees, inclining forward....and the holster cover to turn over upon the horse's withers like an apron, and with pockets to contain the cartridge, ball, and pistol flints, turnscrow, &c. the buts of the pistols to lodge in stout leather sockets fitted to the size of the but, and a small strap fixed like a loop, about half way the length of the barrel, through which the muzzle may be run when returning the pistol, and the but drop into the socket, would find ample room on the pommel of the saddle; the base of this new holster to be of firm stout leather, and fixed without being attached to the surcingle, by no more than the usual straps of the common holster, and without any of their awkwardness or inconvenience.

The saddle should be fixed on an oblong square buffaloe skin or leather housing.

#### § 6. THE STIRRUPS.

Perhaps where time is not allowed for a regular and systematic training in detail, and where horses have been already ridden, it may be necessary to commence the drills of the horsemen with the saddled horse, and leave the habit of acquiring the seat on the unsaddled horse, to time and practice in watering the horse, or tying up the stirrups across the saddle; this method used with skill will soon assure a good seat; this is no doubt reversing the natural order of instruction; but it cannot be avoided in many instances, and particularly during the pressure of war.

The adjustment of the stirrups, however, may in such cases serve the purpose, and in order to procure a good seat by degrees, the horseman should be first made to ride in stirrups somewhat longer than the length required for service.

But the young rider must be taught to know, that in order to obtain a perfect seat, to ride securely, and be complete master of the horse, he must not depend for the preservation of his seat either on his stirrups or bridle; and that he must acquire a seat so perfect as to be able to ride his horse securely without either bridle reins or stirrups.



An erroneous mode has prevailed of determining the length of the stirrup by placing the foot of the stirrup iron in a line with the projection of the ankle bone, but this shortens it too much ; the proper position is thus found—the rider being mounted and the foot horizontal, cause the rider to keep his heel firm, suffering the toe to be raised about an inch ; the teacher may then find the hole for the buckle tongue, and mark it so as to be accurate in future. Care must be taken that the stirrups on both sides be of equal length. To prove the length, the rider should when he rides in the manner of actual service, and stands in his stirrups with sword in hand, be able to rise about six inches above the seat.

When in the seat, the balls of the toes only rest in the stirrups ; and the heels about an inch lower than the toes.

The arms ought to act with freedom, without the least appearance of stiffness or constraint on the body, which will be kept perpendicular ; the motion of the arms ought to be perceived, without any movement of the body from the wrist to the joint of the shoulder, and the reins being the means by which the will of the rider is made known to the horse, their motions ought to be the same in all like circumstances, and constantly correspond with the action of the legs.

#### § 7. THE AIDS OF THE LEGS AND THE USE OF THE SPUR.

The legs ought never to close upon the horse abruptly, but gradually, always proportioning their pressure to the sensibility of the horse, they are gently pressed on both sides in correspondence with the lowering of the hand to make the horse go forward ; to turn to the right or left, the legs will be pressed against the body of the horse behind the girths ; the knees ought not to be opened nor raised up, the bend of the knee must remain close and firm to the horse ; the horseman will ease the pressure of the leg by degrees, when it has produced the desired effect.

The use of the spurs must also be a matter of discipline, and for this purpose words of command and corresponding actions should be employed to teach it, not because the use of the spur is not known, but because it will be important to guard against the abuse and to render its use uniform, so that the change of men to different horses may not produce a change of the method of employing it, to the injury of the horse and the prejudice of military discipline.

It is only when the horse does not obey the pressure of the leg that the spur should be resorted to ; and the spur should be so used, that it shall not be as an excitement, but always as a punishment. Used seldom, but when used, vigorously.

The following form of an exercise for the spur may be resorted to when there are any of the young dragoons not sufficiently discerning and quick to comprehend the verbal directions of the teacher.

To instruct the horseman in the use of the spur, the instructor will apprise the horseman that the object of the instruction is to teach the use of the spur alone; the officer will give the words of command:

*Attention.*

*Take care to practise with the spur.*

*By the aid of the spur....*

*Forward....march.*

At the command, *attention*, the body will assume its proper position, and the attention become fixed.

At the word, *forward*, keep the wrists steady, the knees close, without pressing them. which is called *preparing the horse*.

At the word, *march*, press the legs more or less according to the sensibility of the horse, lower the wrist a little, to the second position of the bridle hand which is also called *giving the rein*; keep the body easily erect, the breast forward, head straight and free, turn the toes out the slightest degree so as to bring the spurs barely in contact....if the horse obeys, cease; if he be slow renew the touch of the spurs, behind the girths, without moving the body or the knees, and continue the pressure until the horse obeys.

When the horse has obeyed, resume the position of the wrists, and relax the pressure of the legs. This exercise may be performed without any actual use of the spur, where the horse is tractable or well trained, and not refractory or disobedient, merely to instruct the recruit in the manner of performing the aid when he may be mounted on a different horse.

This exercise of the use of the spur comprehends also the exercise of marching in advance; and in marching drills may be resorted to where there appears negligence in the man or tardiness in the horse. After the squad have marched a due time and in a proper manner, they will be brought up to the position in which they are to halt, which it will be necessary that they should do in a soldierly manner and together. They will receive the precautionary word:

*Attention.*

*Take care to form rank on the left of the leading file.*

*March....dress....halt.*

At the word *attention*, the horseman must possess the *appui*, or sensible touch of the horse's mouth in hand; he must raise his wrists a little and gentle, at the same time softly closing the legs, which is called *preparing the horse*, for the diminution of the degree of the march; he dresses by the proper point, and on the word *halt*, he raises his wrists, and drawing them to his body without bending, in the *third* position of the bridle hand, and presses the horse with the aids of the legs to prevent his going back; the horse having obeyed, slacken the reins by letting the wrists resume the *first* position of the bridle hand, which is called *giving the hand*,

and cease the pressure of the aid of the legs. Should the horse not obey, he must be made to feel the effect of the rein by what is called *sawing the bridoon*; or by the spur, as is best adapted to the temper of the horse.

The horse is brought to stand still by the word:

*Halt.*

#### § 8. REINING BACK.

The lesson of reining back is next taught; the officer gives the word:

*Attention.*

*The squadron will take care to rein backwards.*

This precaution must never be disregarded; at the word of preparation, the particular action to be performed being described, the horseman attends to his position regarding what is to be done.

At the command of preparation, the horseman will *prepare the horse* by the aid of the legs.

At the word *rein back*, he raises his hands so as to act upon the mouth, prepares his horse by the approach of the aid of the legs, and at the instant the horse moves, alternately lowers and raises the reins, which is called *giving and taking*; if the horse throws his croup to the right, press the right leg; if he throws it to the left, press the left leg against his flank; and should this not be effectual to bring him to his proper position, carry the hand to the side towards which he throws his croup. This is called *opposing the shoulders to the haunches*.

The instructor will command:

*March....rein back.*

#### § 9. FACING.

The squad being drawn up in a single rank, at a horse length distance, it is required to practise facing to the right and to the left, and to the right about. The officer gives the word of precaution:

*Attention.*

*The squad will face, by single files, to the right.*

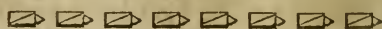
Each horseman will prepare to face his horse in the direction ordered, at command. Before the facing is performed, the squad will stand in this position:



*Files....right....face.*

At the word right, the horseman prepares his horse by the light pressure of the aid of the right leg, at the same instant opens the right rein so as to touch the horse's mouth at that side, and with the right leg presses gradually under the right flank.

When faced they present this disposition:





The facing being performed, the pressure of the leg and the hand are diminished, and the reins resume their accustomed place; the left leg is brought to bear at the instant the horse is on the proper direction. In this first exercise, to prevent the horse from turning too short, it is preferable that he be made to describe a quarter of a circle with his fore feet, of about two or three yards.

The movement being completed, the rank halted, and the squad being now in file faced to the right, the facing to the left may follow; and the precaution will be given:

*Attention.*

*Take care to face to the left.*

*Files....left....face.*

The same principles but by contrary movements.

The left rein will now be opened and the side of the horse pressed by the left leg; and when the movement is nearly completed the right rein and leg will be employed to complete it.

The squadron being faced to the right, will then be prepared to come to the right about in single files.

The instructor will command:

*Attention.*

*The squad will take care to come to the right about by single files.*

*Files....right about....face.*

At the word, *right about*, prepare the horse to move; at the word *face*, open the right rein, pressing the right leg gradually, to bring the shoulders of the horse around; being finished, diminish the effect of the right rein and leg, by bearing on the left rein and leg to complete the movement. The horseman on completing the movement replaces the wrists and legs.

The horses in the coming to the right and left about should each form a part of a circle of about four or five paces, and would present in their first movement the following order:



These facings should be diversified as in the infantry drills, facing successive times to the right and right about, to the left and left about, and facing to the flanks; being in files faced to the left, as follows, and ordered to the right about, they present the preceding dispositions; the dotted lines representing the course of the movement of each file:

They resume their first position in the same order as if ordered to face to the left, at the word,

*Front face.*

In movements of circling, which is the preparatory exercise for wheeling, it is important to habituate the horseman to keep the head steadily to the front, and to turn it but seldom.

The squad is put in motion by the command:

*Attention.*

*By files....to the right....march.*

The instructor holding the *chambriere* standing to the right of the rank, will direct the horseman to turn to the right, he will then fix himself in rear of the rank in the centre of the circle.

The instructor will take care that the upper part of the body and head be not put out of place by the motion of the horse.

He must take care that the lower part of the body be carried as much forward as possible, consistent with a steady seat.

Every time a horseman deranges his position, he is to be commanded to halt; so that he may resume his position, and this will be effected as much as possible without touching the horse or the horseman, who shall be thus gradually accustomed to hear and understand the language of the horseman.

The squad will pass successively from a walk to a trot, and from a trot to a walk, in order to accustom them to the different paces or gaits.

§ 10. CHANGING SIDES.

When the horsemen have marched a considerable time to the right, they will be made to change their direction in the following manner—*Plate IX. fig. 1.*

The exercise being to the right, an assistant will approach the first horse and conduct him, the instructor will command:

*Attention.*

*By the right outward....face.*

The first horseman will open the right rein, turning the horse while he advances, and halt him facing the outer part of the circle.

The second horseman will continue the march four paces beyond where the first file turned, placing himself on his right, as directed by the instructor, who will command:

*To the right....face.*

The third horseman, guided by the same assistant, will perform the same movement, advancing however till he has marched four paces beyond his file leader, before he turns, when he will receive the word also.

The same will be observed with respect to the fourth horseman, and so to each when there may be twenty or more.

The instructor will use the time while the squad is halted for teaching the men the proper position, and sometimes make them take the first position of the exercise of the spur.

When the horsemen are to be again put in motion, the instructor will command :

*Attention.*

*By files....to the left....face.*

*Forward....March.*

The horsemen will then face to the left altogether, according to the principles prescribed. *Plate IX. fig 2.*

At the command *forward*, the horseman will lower his wrist, and follow the leading file, which will then be marching to the left.

The changing of direction when marching to the left is performed on the same principles, by reversing the motion.

The instructor will take great care in the exercise of the *circle*, that the horsemen keep their bodies, loins, thighs, and legs, in their proper positions, correcting the position of each part separately and distinctly, when error is discovered.

The lesson may be divided into four exercises of a quarter of an hour each.

When the exercise is ended they will be made to dismount, and file off alternately by the right or left, or from both flanks of the squad at the same time.

#### § 11. DISMOUNTING.

The instructor will prepare the squad for dismounting :

*Attention.*

*Prepare to dismount.*

On the word of preparation, cross the two reins into the left hand, lay hold of the mane with the fore fingers of the left hand, keeping a firm hand ; the thumb extended across the reins as they lie over the second joint of the first finger.

Place the right hand on the withers of the horse ; the thumb to the left side, the fingers on the off side.

*Dismount.*

The horseman must elevate himself on his wrists, pass the right leg extended over the croup of the horse, without touching ; lean on the arms and hands ; bring the right thigh near the left, and the body well supported on the arms for an instant, looking to the off side of the horse.

Spring gently to the ground on the toes, bending the knees a little, take hold of the reins with the left hand at six inches from the beard of the horse, the nails upwards ; the right hand resting on the shoulder ; take two steps to the front, going off with the left foot, facing towards the head of the horse ; pass the reins over the head of the horse, commencing by clearing over the right ear.

*To the front...form...march,*



At the command, *front*, come to the *right about* in three paces, moving to the front of the horse; the left hand holding the reins at the double or extremity, and placed horizontally across the breast: the right hand along the side.

When making the horsemen dismount in these first drills, to accustom them to sustain themselves on their wrists, they should be taught to remain an instant in the positions of the first motions, and by the word of command to resume their former positions:

*As you were.*

When they can perform the motion of dismounting well on the near side; after some time they may be taught to dismount on the off side, which is performed by the reverse motions

When the horsemen can perform the first exercises of dismounting on the near side at command, they will be practised in performing the two first movements in succession, without stopping, and then they will be taught to dismount on the off side; and then to mount on the near and off side.

#### § 12. RETIRING FROM DRILL AND PARADE.

The instructor will inform the horseman, that every movement of a soldier must be performed in a military manner; that method and exactness constitute a great part of the perfection of discipline; that going to or from the stable must be done in a methodical manner; he will then apprise them that they are to file off from the right or left, and conduct their horses to the stable. The instructor will command:

*Attention.*

*Take care to file off by the right.*

*By files....to the right.*

The horsemen will face to the left about in three small paces.

Let the reins fall on the left arm, perform the motion of unhooking a link of the curb, then seizing the double of the bridle six inches under the head with the left hand to hold the horse.

Take hold with the right hand of the end of the reins on the left arm.

Carry the left hand to the right, disengaging it from the reins, taking hold of them with the left hand six inches below the mouth of the horse, the nails above.

Face to the left, let the left hand fall alongside, without letting go the reins.

In moving off by the *left*, the motions are the same, with only the difference of facing to the *right*, in the last motion.

*....March.*

At this command go off with the left foot; after having taken two paces, taking hold of the reins with the other hand, so as to be enabled to take hold of the sword with the left hand.

After being prepared to file off by the right, it will be performed by facing to the right.

## CHAPTER IV.

### § 1. EXERCISES WITH THE SADDLED HORSE.

THE recruits being a little habituated to the movement of the horse, four, eight or twelve are to be united, the horses saddled and bitted, and placed a horse length from each other to exercise them in the circle.

They will be made to perform the motions of dressing to the right and left, in order that they may know how to dress in ranks.

At the command *right dress*, turn the eyes gently to the right, moving the head only sufficiently to see; or so that the inner corner of the left eye ranges with the buttons of the waistcoat.

At the command *left dress*, reverse the motion.

At the command *front*, gently replace the eyes to the front, which will be the habitual position of the horseman.

The men, placed before the horses *as in the engraving, page 31*), will be taught to tell themselves off by sections of two and four, commencing on the right:

*Attention.*

*By fours....tell off.*

*One, two, three, four....One two, three, four.*

The instructor will signify the exercises which are to be performed, and will command:

*Attention.*

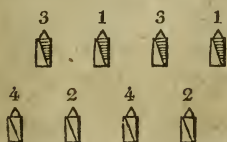
*Prepare to take horse.*

*About.*

Raise the left foot and come to the left about in three paces.

Take hold of the doubled end of the reins with the left hand, the nails below, seize immediately the reins in the left hand, six inches from the mouth of the horse, the thumb opposite the head, the files numbered *two* and *four*, are to *rein back their horses* four paces, placing themselves opposite the interval which they had left, the numbers *one, three*, standing fast.

The front figures marked by shading represent the odd files or horses of the front rank, those without shading represent the even files, or horses reined back.



Elevate the right hand, and pass the reins over the horse's right ear, making use of the thumb for separating the two reins.

Take two steps, going off with the right foot, so as to be opposite the left shoulder of the horse ; face to the left, placing at the same time the right heel two inches from the left, without letting go the reins.

Elevate the reins with the right hand the length of the arm, let the left slip on the neck of the horse, pass the little finger between the two reins, taking hold of the mane with the other fingers of the left hand.

Cast the extremities of the reins with the right hand to the off side of the horse ; take hold of the left stirrup, with the right hand slide the hand along the stirrup to the stirrup-iron to make it level ; place the left foot in the stirrup, and the right hand on the cantle of the saddle.

### *Mount.*

By the aid of the left hand holding the mane, and the right hand holding the cantle, raise the body upon the left leg in the stirrup ; stand in the stirrup an instant.

Without pulling the bridle towards you, the body remaining perpendicular ...the horseman looking to the right of the horse.

Pass the right leg dexterously and with ease extended over the croup of the horse, without touching ; gently placing yourself on the saddle, place the right hand on the right holster ; the thumb without, the fore fingers within, adjust the stirrup to put your foot in, and separate the reins in both hands.

At the command :

### *Front...form.*

The numbers *one* and *three*, will raise their wrists and close their legs, to prevent their horses from moving ; the numbers *two*, and *four*, will enter the ranks gently, and resume their first places in the rank.

The horsemen are to be exercised repeatedly in the circle as in the preceding drills, constantly observing that, on commencing the march to the right, to break off on the left ; and when marching to the left to break off on the right.

Marching to the right, is here to be understood, when the right side is towards the centre of the ground upon which the exercise is performed ; and marching to the left, is when the left side is to the centre.

To march to the right, the horseman being in rank, the instructor will command :

### *Attention.*

*The squad will take care to march to the right.*

*By single files...from the left.*

*Forward...march.*



At the command *by single files from the left*, the horsemen will prepare their horses.

At the command *forward*, the first horseman on the left of the rank, will march four yards straight forward, all the others will at the word *march*, likewise advance four yards in front of their standing positions, and breaking off successively when the heads of their horses are even with the haunches of the horses next them on the left, then opening the left reins and pressing the left leg, they will *quarter face to the left* and take their place in file behind him. *Plate X. fig. 1.*

The figures □ I. □ I. in these plates represent the positions of the instructors.

## § 2. BY SINGLE FILES TO THE LEFT.

The instructor will command:

*Attention.*

*Take care to move to the left.*

*By files....from the right.*

*Forward.*

*March.*

This movement is the reverse of the preceding one. *Plate X. fig. 2.*

In this lesson the horsemen may be exercised without actually using stirrups, which may be crossed over the horse's withers when the movements begin, and fixed there until they are about to dismount.

The instructor will take great care of the position of the horseman, observing that the upper part of the body be not bent forward, that the person does not bear forward on the pommel of the saddle, and that the outward hip and shoulder are not drawn back.

## § 3. TO CROSS THE REINS ALTERNATELY IN BOTH HANDS.

The reins will be crossed in the left hand, when marching to the right, at the command, *cross reins to the left*; and in the right hand, when marching to the left at the command, *cross reins to the right*.

At the command *part reins*, the horseman replaces the wrists as indicated in the drill, § 4, *chap. III. page 38.*

Both in crossing and parting the reins, the legs will be pressed to the horse to prevent him from slackening his gait.

The changing of direction will be performed in a walk according to the principles of the first drill.

In changing direction to the right, the horseman will make use of the right hand and leg, sustaining the haunches of the horse with the left leg.

In changing to the left the reverse will be observed.

The horseman ought often during this exercise be made to pass from a walk to a trot, and from a trot to a walk.

## § 4. TO PASS FROM A WALK TO A TROT.

The instructor will command: *Plate VII. fig. 2.*

*Attention.*

*Take care to augment the pace to the trot.*

*Trot....march.*

At the command *trot*, keep the wrists steady, closing the legs to prepare the horse to quicken his gait.

At the command *march*, lower the wrists, pressing with the legs gradually, until the horse has obeyed, then resume the position of the wrists and legs, but not suddenly.

## § 5. FROM A SLOW TO A QUICK TROT.

The instructor will command:

*Attention.*

*Take care to augment the pace.*

*Quick Trot....march.*

Lower the wrists a little and close the legs gradually. The horse having obeyed, resume the position of the wrists and legs.

The instructors will take care that the horses do not overreach themselves in the quick trot; to prevent which the horseman ought to keep a tight rein and close the legs.

## § 6. FROM A QUICK TO A SLOW TROT.

The instructor will command: *Plate VIII. fig. 1.*

*Attention.*

*Take care to shorten the pace.*

*Slow trot....march.*

Check the horse; the legs closed to prevent the horse from stopping or walking; the horse having obeyed, resume the position of the wrists and legs.

## § 7. FROM A TROT TO A WALK.

The same principles.

At the command of performance, the horseman ought not to act too suddenly, lest the horse be affrighted.

Whenever a slow gait is changed into a faster, as from a walk to a trot, it ought to commence gently, and be increased by degrees. When a quick gait is changed into a slower, as from a trot into a walk, the gait should be slackened by degrees to that which is ordered.

Recruits have for the most part the habit of supporting themselves by the hand, and closing the legs when trotting; to remedy this they will be made to trot without holding the reins and with the hands hanging down by their sides; this instruction should be practised without wantonness towards the man, or the horse, and only when the horse trots evenly and well. After several turns, the horseman will resume the reins; it would be proper to repeat this lesson occasionally.

A horse trotting in a circle ought to have his head a little inwards, to accomplish which the horseman ought to keep the inside rein a little tighter ; he ought, also, in turning, to close the inside leg a little, supporting the horse, however, with the outside rein and leg.

#### § 8. AUGMENTING FRONT.

When the position of the horseman is steady, and the motion of the arms and legs free, the horseman marching by the left,

The instructor will command :

*Attention.*

*Take care to form sections of two.*

*Sections of two....forward....march.*

At the first command fix the attention ; at the second, all the horsemen excepting the leading file, will prepare their horses to trot.

At the command *march*, all the horsemen will trot off except the single file in front, the first horseman numbered *two*, is to open the left rein, close the left leg, and go obliquely to the left, until abreast of number *one*, when he will assume the walk ; the next horseman continuing to march straight forward in trot, the numbers *one* and *two* double up successively, and when they have doubled and arrived half a horse's length from the croup of the horses preceding them, they will walk. *Plate XI. fig. 1. 2.*

In like manner four or eight may be made to march abreast, in which case the numbers three and four will double successively on the numbers one and two. *Plate XI. fig. 3. 4.*

The figures □ I. □ I. in these plates represent the positions of the instructors and assistants.

#### § 9. TO FORM RANK.

The horsemen marching thus by sections of two or four to the left, the instructor will command :

*Attention.*

*Take care to form single rank to the front, upon the left of the leading file.*

*Forward....march.*

At the command *forward*, all the horsemen, except the two or four in front, are to accelerate the gait.

At the command *march*, the files in the rear of the first file, will open the left rein, closing the left leg, inclining to the left, until they are abreast of the two or four in front, which will be done successively. *Plate XII. fig. 1. upper circle.*

#### § 10. TO BREAK OFF BY FOURS OR TWOS.

The instructor will command :

*Attention.*

*Take care to advance from the right by sections of four.*

*Sections of four (or two)...forward....march.*



At the command *four (or two)*, all the horsemen, except the four or two in front on the right, will prepare their horses.

At the command *march*, the (two or) four horsemen in front continue the march straight forward; the others slackening their paces until out of rank, each will then quarter face to the right, to place themselves by four or two in file behind the first. *Plate XII. fig. 2,*

The same principles serve for breaking off by single files. *Plate XII. fig. 1. 2. of the lower circle.*

When the horsemen march to the right, the doubling is performed by quarter facing to the left after the same principles

By thus marching, by two and four. and in rank in the circle, the horsemen will insensibly be accustomed to the elementary movements of wheeling.

When the exercise is finished, the rank will be formed and halted, they will then replace their stirrups and place their feet in them.

#### § 11. TO DISMOUNT.

The horsemen being in one rank, the instructor will command :

*Attention.*

*Prepare to dismount.*

The numbers two and four, are to rein back their horses a full horse length from one and three.

The horsemen are to cross the reins in the left hand, taking hold of the mane with the same hand, the right hand is then placed on the right holster-cap.

*....Dismount.*

Throw the weight of the body on the left stirrup, pass the right leg extended over the croup of the horse without touching it, bring the right foot near the left, the body well supported, the right hand on the cantle of the saddle, the thumb within, the four other fingers without.

Alight on the right foot, bring down the left foot to the right, seizing with the right hand the end of the reins placed on the pommel of the saddle, taking hold of them at the same time with the left hand six inches from the mouth of the horse.

Take two steps, going off with the left foot, to be opposite the head of the horse, pass the reins over his head, commencing by disengaging the right ear.

*Front....form.*

At this command, the numbers two and four are to wheel *about by the right*, conducting their horses into the ranks with the right hand, the reins are passed over the left arm, which is to be placed on the breast, the doubled extremities of the reins coming out of the left hand the length of six inches, the right hand on the right

side elevating a little the left hand, they are not to face about until the numbers one and three enter their intervals, and are in line with them.

The horsemen, in this drill, will be exercised in dismounting, on the right and left, as prescribed in the drill, § 11, *chap.* III.; when they are to be exercised in dismounting, they will be placed in Indian file along one of the sides of the exercise ground or manege, then make them turn to the right or left by single files, by which they will be in rank in open files.

After having made them dismount and mount, they will be again in files; then march them; form a rank and dismount as has before been directed.

The horsemen will file off and conduct their horses to the stable in the same manner as in the drill, § 11, *chap.* III.

When the horsemen are sufficiently instructed in these exercises they will be made to pass to the next.

#### OBSERVATIONS.

It may be observed in this stage of the instruction, with advantage, that the methods here laid down, and throughout this hand book, if pursued as taught, cannot fail to impress upon any man of the least fitness for a dragoon, the proper method of riding and treating the horse.

It is laid down so minutely, and the progress from one step to another is so regular and natural, that the first lessons always lead to the succeeding. The movement in the circle by files from the right of a rank, for example, though they appear at first view as mere exercises of fancy, upon a close examination will be found to contain the principle of wheeling in squadron; as all wheelings upon a left pivot will be found to be produced in that way; that is, by a movement of the right: and by this method the horse as well as the man is taught the use of the *aids* of the *bridle hand* and the *legs*.

The instruction is conducted upon a principle which must be supposed true throughout; that is, that the recruit when he commences the drills with the horse is wholly ignorant of riding or the management of the horse. And this will be, as far as it relates to military service, so true, that the worst effects would follow if it were disregarded, since however much accustomed the individual may be to the horse in the uses of common life, the modes which different persons resort to in riding and treating the horse are so different from each other, that all those various habits must be superseded by an uniform method, or the cavalry discipline will be defective, and pernicious in proportion as it is disregarded.

The dragoon should be constantly kept in mind of the *delicacy of the touch*, by which the movements of the horse may be governed; as it is too much the practice to blame the horse for the ignorance, or negligence, or violence, of the rider.

## CHAPTER V.

## § 1. ELEMENTS OF EVOLUTION.

THE drills in the circle are not to be dispensed with until the horse is tractable, and the man understands the intention of every thing he is taught. They are then brought to open ground for exercise.

The horsemen, before mounting, forming together a *squad* of sixteen, twenty-four, or forty-eight men, and standing to their horses heads on the left side, will be formed in two ranks at two horse lengths apart.

They must be apprized that in the first exercises, in order to assure a good seat, the stirrups must be longer than when the horseman has acquired a seat; and that the stirrups will be occasionally crossed over the pommel. An instructor or officer takes post in front faced to the squad; another in the rear faced to the front.

They then receive the word :

*Attention.*

*Take care to tell off by sections of four from the right of ranks.*

The right hand man of each rank tells with the voice, *one*, and so on, *two, three, four...one, two, three, four...* the officer gives the word :

*Prepare to mount.*

The *even* files of *each* rank rein back their horses, clear of the rank to which they belong, but in front of the interval they have left, dress by the right, and wait for the word: *Plate XIII. fig. 1.*

*Mount.*

They must now be taught to fix their stirrups to the proper length; which must be such as never to admit in service of the rider rising more than six inches from his seat standing in his stirrups; that at all other times no more weight must rest on the stirrups than that of the leg, from the knee down; that the knee must never be stiff, though the thighs must be firm and flat on the seat; that the ball of the toe shall rest on the stirrup iron; and the heel fall one inch below the stirrup. *Chap. III. § 6.*

The stirrups being properly fixed, each rank having been counted off by the voice in sours, from the right to the left, the command is given: *Plate XIII. fig. 2.*

*Ranks....front form....march.*



At the command *form*, the numbers one and three of each rank will raise the wrists, pressing the legs to the horse. The numbers two and four enter the ranks gently and without haste, and when the ranks are formed, the officer will give the precautionary notice of the movement to be made, which corresponds with the manner of the exercise in the circle. *Plate XII. fig. 1.*

*Attention.*

*In close order....*

Whereupon the rear rank, which had stood at two horses length distance, closes up to half a horse length from the front rank, and receives the remainder of the precaution :

*...Take care to advance in column.*

The ranks being closed the instructor will command :

*From the right....sections of four.*

*Forward....march.*

At the command *march*, four men of the front rank on the right, followed by the four men of the rear rank on the right, move forward, the second section on the left of the first does not move until the heads of their horses are in a line with the haunches of those of the rear rank on their right ; they will then march six paces forward before they incline by a quarter facing to the right to take their places in column. As in the circles, *Plates XI. and XII.*

Each horseman of the second rank will promptly follow his file leader of the first ; in this movement the first files will always keep their heads to the front, the others regulating their motions by them.

To break off to the left, the instructor commands :

*From the left....sections of four (or two).*

*Forward....march.*

This movement is performed on the same principles, by reversing the motions ; *as in plate XII. lower circle.*

If requisite to march by single files, this movement is performed by filing according to the same principles, the file coverers of the second rank continuing to follow their file leaders of the front rank.

These exercises should be always conducted by the aid of two sub-officers, who should act as guides of evolution, and march in front of the ranks, and mark points of wheeling, halting, and formation.

§ 2. TO FORM FRONT IN DOUBLE ORDER.

The head of the column of sections of four, on arriving at any required point of the exercise ground, will take a direction parallel to one of its sides, and when near the middle of the ground, the instructor will command : *Plate XIV. fig. 1.*

*Attention.*

*Take care to form front in the double order upon the left of the leading section.*

*Double files....on the left...form front.*

*March.*

At the command *march*, the first or leading section will march four paces in front, take the direction required, and then halt; when the right is in front all the other sections will form to the left of the first, by an oblique movement to the left, losing as little ground as practicable; and to their right by an oblique movement to the right when the left is in front.

Should the squad be placed in such a position as not to permit any acceleration of the pace, to form on the required front, the first files will act accordingly, but when it is possible, they must execute the movement with spirit and a rapid pace.

## § 3. WHEELING BY RANKS OF PLATOONS.

By a platoon is to be understood, *half a troop*.

The officer commanding the exercise will command the first rank of the platoon as follows:

*Attention.*

*The rear rank will stand fast. The front rank will take care to come to the right about in good order.*

*Front rank....right about!....wheel.*

*March.*

The first rank will perform this movement in a walk. *Plate XIV. fig. 2*

The second rank will remain steady.

The wheeling accomplished, the officer will command:

*...Halt.*

The guides in these exercises take their positions on the right and left of the first rank when in rank; on the front and rear when in column; the guide of the left or rear, will now become the guide of the second rank; as in *Plate XIV. fig. 2*.

The instructors will not exercise these two ranks at the same time, until each rank has been separately exercised in the details of this drill, and the horse-men sufficiently instructed to perform well; then the two ranks will perform the same exercises at the same time, and by one word of command.

When commencing the exercise of the ranks separately, it would be proper to form the squad in a position out of the range of other exercises, in order that the stationary rank may not incommode the movement of the others; and at the same time see the exercise and hear the commands.

The first rank after being exercised will form in the rear of the second; and so after a halt, the second will form in the rear of the first.

For the exercise of both ranks in different directions, but by the same word of command, the first rank is *wheeled about*, and the *movement* is made by each rank indiscriminately.

#### § 4. FILING TO THE RIGHT.

When the squad, still in two ranks, is required to file off, so as to march with the right to the centre of the position on which it is formed, the instructor will inform them that they are to march with their right to the centre of the ground.

*Attention.*

*Take care to advance by files from the left of ranks.*

*Files...from the left of ranks....march.*

At the command *files from the left*, the guides of the exercises will place themselves at the point from which the files are successively to move off; as described by the figures marked G. and when they have filed off will lead them. *Plate XV. figs. 1. 2.*

At the command *march*, the horseman on the left of each rank, will march four paces in front, or until his horse's head is in a line with the guide G, then take a diagonal direction to the left, opening the left rein and closing the left leg; the other horsemen of each rank will advance and dress by the guide, and break off successively in the same manner, placing themselves in file behind those in front, and arriving in the same places as the guides conducting them, keeping their horses in the proper position. *Plate XV.*

If they are to march to the left, the instructor will command:

*Attention.*

*By single file from the right.*

*Forward....march.*

At the command, *march*, the horsemen on the right of each rank break off together, marching off to the side of the ground, then turn to the left, at the guide, and follow the track; all the other horsemen march four paces in front, placing themselves in file according to the manner before prescribed.

The two instructors acting as guides, will so regulate their gait as to arrive at the same time at the opposite angles of the ground, the guide of the second rank regulating himself by the guide of the first.

When a horseman loses his position the instructor will command:

*Attention.*

*Halt.*

When halted, the position will be corrected, and the instructor will command:

*Attention.*

*Forward....march.*



The horsemen ought, on arriving at obstacles, such as trees, fences, or corners on the ground, to check their horses, and if marching to the right, open the right rein, close the right leg, and the reverse if marching to the left.

The horses must not pass into corners, but it should be explained to the horsemen, that in passing a corner to the right they must move the horse to the right, and passing a corner to the left they must move the horse to the left.

The horsemen ought not to permit the horses to turn by themselves at the angles or obstacles, but to turn under the guidance of the hands and legs of the rider in the manner required.

The horseman, in turning an angle, ought to advance the shoulder of the horse which is in the direction which he intends to take, but carefully avoid bearing forward on the horse himself.

The greatest attention must be paid to keeping the horses straight in their exercises. A horse is straight when his shoulders and haunches are on the same line on which he moves.

If in marching to the right, the horse inclines his shoulder to the right, the left rein will be opened and the right leg closed; and when he inclines his shoulders to the left, the right rein will be relaxed and the right leg gently pressed to aid the movement.

If a horse throws his haunches to the right or to the left, the means directed in the first lesson will be used. § 8, *chap.* III.

If the horse throws himself towards the inner side of the ground, the outside rein and inside leg will be made use of to keep him in the proper track.

#### § 5. CHANGE OF DIRECTION IN THE MARCH.

After several times marching with the right or left to the centre of the ground, the direction of the march will be changed in the following manner. As soon as the sub-officers, acting as guides, arrive at any particular point, the instructor will command: *Plate XVI. fig. 1.*

#### *Attention*

When they have reached the determined point he will command:

*Right wheel....forward....march.*

The guides will turn their horses while advancing, to the right as directed; they will march straight forward at the command *forward*; each rank passing the other in file on the left without touching; when arrived at the extremity of the ground, the instructor will command:

*Left wheel....forward....march.*

Each rank will perform the same movement and keep along the exterior line of the ground.

At the command *forward*, the guide turns in the required direction, and all the horsemen will move to and turn at the same point, and follow their file leader.

The gait ought not to be changed, nor the pace retarded when changing direction; otherwise the rear would be compelled to halt.

After some rounds in this exercise, another change of direction will be commenced in the length of the ground.

#### § 6. CHANGE DIRECTION IN THE OBLIQUE ORDER.

The horsemen having been marched to the middle of the ground in file, as in *plate XVII. fig. 1.* the instructor will command:

*Attention.*

*Take care to move in the oblique order, to the right.*

*Files....right....quarter face.*

*Forward....march.*

At the command of preparation, each horseman will prepare his horse.

At the command *quarter face*, each horseman turns his horse a quarter to the right. *Plate XVIII. centre figures.*

At the command *forward*, open the right rein and close the right leg, so that the horse keeps correctly a quarter face to the right; at the word *march*, press both legs equally, in order to make the horse go forwards; the sub-officer guide marching on the right flank, is to make the quarter facing in the proper direction: all the other horsemen describing parallel lines to his position; dressing by the left, preserving their intervals in order to arrive dressed in rank at the point at which they are to front, halt, or take a new movement; when it will be required to form a rank, and for this purpose the command will be given:

*Front....form....dress.*

A quarter facing to the left by opening the left rein, and closing the left leg, brings the ranks in Indian file.

Before these movements are performed, it will be necessary to exercise the horsemen in quarter facings, when stationary, in order to make them acquainted with the degree of obliquity necessary to execute a quarter facing.

#### § 7. CHANGE DIRECTION AND PASSING INTERVALS.

After having changed direction as in *plate XVI. figs. 1, 2*, a few turns will be made to the left, and twice change direction in the breadth of the ground, according to the manner already prescribed.

These two changes will be followed by a change of direction by obliquing to the left.

The change of direction by obliquing to the left is performed in the reverse manner to that of the right.

These movements being performed, the horsemen will be exercised in marching to the right.

The horseman will always turn in the same gait in which he is advancing.

#### § 8. FACING TO THE RIGHT IN MARCHING.

The horseman being in file on the outer sides and length of the menage, the instructor will command :

*Attention.*

*The quad will face to the right and pass the intervals of files.*

*The whole....right face.*

*Forward....march.*

At the word *whole*, prepare the horse.

At the command *right face*, each horseman will turn his horse's head to the right, and at the word *forward*, all march forward, directing their horses on the intervals of the ranks approaching them, the ranks will pass through each other, dressing by the left, and preserving their intervals on the same side. When arrived at a proper distance, the instructor will command :

*Attention.*

*Right face....forward....march.*

At the command, *right face*, each horseman will turn his horse's head to the right, and at the word *forward*, the whole will advance in Indian file ; the movement finished, the men will then be marching in reversed order ; but by repeating the same movements of facing to the right and keeping ranks by the intervals of files, they will return to their first order.

#### § 9. WHEELING ABOUT IN MOVEMENT.

The horsemen being in motion by files along the length of the ground, the word will be given to the two ranks :

*Attention.*

*Inward face....forward....march.*

They will then pass the intervals as before.

When they have passed the intervals of each other, the instructor will command :

*Attention.*

*Files....right about....face.*

*Forward....march.*



At the command, *face*, the horseman will bring his horse by the right about, all will march forward at the command forward, and resume the march in file by turning to the right.

In moving to the right, and right about, the guides will be on the right or left, as directed by the officer.

The sub-officers, marching at the head of the men, ought to turn slowly to the right, in order to give time to the others to perform their movement, but when the rank turns the second time to the right, the horseman marching in the former rear, who will then be in front, will perform his movement by accelerating his pace a little so as not to retard the others.

When the exercise has been commenced on the left, turning to the left will be made instead of to the right, after having performed what has been prescribed in a walk, the same movements will be repeated in a trot according to the same principles.

After these movements the quick trot will be used, but without urging the horse to overreach himself; after several turns in this gait, they will pass to a slow trot, then to a walk.

The instructor will take care in the quick or lengthened trot that the horseman keep a light firm hand.

To habituate the horsemen to the command of their horses, accustom them to quitting their ranks in single files. They must often be made to move out of the places they occupy, and to place themselves in the rear.

When a change of direction is to be commenced in the length of the manege, and when the two are so placed as that the original files are aside of each other, the instructor will command:

*Attention.*

*Halt.*

At this command each horseman will stop and place his horse straight, if not so already.

#### § 10. TO PASSAGE, OR INCLINE TO THE RIGHT

The instructor will command:

*Attention.*

*The squad will take care to passage outward by files.*

*To the right....incline.*

*March.*

At the word *right*, the horsemen will incline the shoulders of their horses to the right, by opening the right rein and pressing the right leg a little. This motion is only preparatory, indicating to the horseman, that the shoulders of his horse

ought always to open the march, and precede the movement of the haunches. *Plate XVII. fig. 2.*

At the command, *march*, the horseman will open the right rein and press the left leg to make the horse move his haunches, pressing with the right leg to sustain the horse.

The horsemen will incline in this manner to the extent required ; then they will receive the word *cover....halt*.

#### § 11. TO INCLINE TO THE LEFT.

At the command, *to the left incline....march*, the horsemen will resume their original ground by the reverse movements.

If the horse should move back in inclining, the legs will be closed and the reins eased, always bearing the shoulders of the horse to the side inclined to ; it is the constraint that the horse experiences when his shoulders do not move first, that makes him go back ; if the horse advances too much, the effect of the legs diminished, the reins alternately tightened and slackened, correct the error.

#### § 12. TO CLOSE RANKS TO THE RIGHT OR LEFT.

After having made each horseman turn to the right or left, the double ranks will be again formed and brought to face in opposite directions, or to face from each other at half a horse length distance ; and each rank will close to the right or left, so that when the ranks are closed, the men of each rank be not behind one another. *Plate XIV. fig. 3.*

To perform this movement, command :

*Attention.*

*In close order to the right....incline....march.*

The horsemen will observe the following instructions, observing, when each is near the horseman towards whom he inclines, to close the leg on the side next him, time enough to prevent one horse from pressing on the other.

The eyes will be turned towards the side inclined to.

After having performed what has been prescribed, the squad will be made to halt, when they will be commanded to *rest* ; at this command the horsemen will let the bridles fall on the necks of their horses, assuming an easy position. The officers will use the interval of rest, to instruct them in the principles of alignment, and they will on all convenient occasions give such instructions, as well as on those of wheeling, before the exercise commences.

#### § 13. PRINCIPLES OF ALIGNMENT OR DRESSING RANKS.

The horsemen, in dressing, will adjust their shoulders by those of the next man on the side they are directed to dress by, fixing their eyes so as to perceive the breast of the second man toward the same side, in the same rank, slightly turning

the head toward that side but remaining square on their horses; they will gently touch the boot of the foot of the next man on the side to which they press, keeping the horses straight in the ranks parallel to each other.

The horsemen, being in one rank, will be exercised in the following manner:

The instructor will place a guide a few paces in front of the right of the rank, faced towards the left of the rank; he will order two or three horsemen to advance from the right of the rank four paces: after having placed them properly he will command: *Plate XX. fig. 1.*

*Attention.*

*The squad will form upon the files advanced from the right.*

*Forward....march....halt.*

At this command, each horseman will advance, turn the eyes to the right, come up with the horseman towards whom his head is turned, so as to feel his boots gently without extending the leg, that he may not be obliged to throw himself to the opposite side, he will take care not to go beyond the line on which he is to dress, so that he never may be obliged to fall back.

These horsemen will then be made to advance from the left of the rank, and the instructor will command: *Plate XX. fig. 2.*

*Attention.*

*The squad will form upon files advanced from the left.*

*Forward....march....halt.*

This will be performed by the reversed manner of the previous movement; the same movement will be repeated, placing the horsemen by which the others are to dress in an oblique position.

When the line is well dressed, *halt* will be commanded, the horseman will then replace his eyes directly to the front, and remain with eyes steady.

It generally happens that a line is not well dressed, because the horses are not straight in rank and parallel to each other; when a troop is dressing by the right, and the left wing is too much in the rear, it frequently proceeds from most of the horses being turned to the left; if this should prove to be the cause, the instructor will command the horsemen to open the right rein and press the right leg, which will turn the horse a little and bring him up square to the alignment.

If after this some horsemen should still be too much in the rear, they will put their horses in the proper position, and advance until they perceive themselves to be at the correct dressing point.



When a troop is dressing by the right and the left wing is too much advanced, it is an almost certain proof that the horses are too much turned to the right, the horseman will then be commanded to open the left rein and press the left leg, which will make the horse go back a little and bring him square to the alignment.

If after this some horsemen should be still too much advanced, they will rein directly back, until they are at the proper dressing point; if the same fault should happen in dressing to the left, it will be remedied by the reverse movements.

When the instructor perceives that the horse of the horseman he is dressing is correctly dressed, he will cause him to lower his wrists and ease the pressure of the legs.

After having instructed horsemen in the principles of dressing, they will be instructed in those of wheeling.

#### § 14. PRINCIPLES OF WHEELING.

The conductor of a wheeling flank ought so to describe his arc of a circle, as not to open nor close the files, each horseman of the rank ought to judge of the extent of his particular arc of the circle according to the distance he is from the pivot.

As all the different arcs should be passed over in the same time, it is necessary that each horseman should march with a quicker pace in proportion as he is distant from the pivot.

To put these principles in practice, command each rank separately: *Plate XX. figs. 3, 4.*

*Attention.*

*The squad will wheel in rank, files open, by the right.*

*Right....wheel....march.*

At the command *march*, the horseman will turn his eyes towards the wheeling flank, and keep them so during the wheel, in order to regulate the degrees of celerity, at the same time feeling the knee of the man next on the side of the pivot, in order to regulate the quickness of the pace.

These wheelings being performed on the right and left in one rank of open files, at one pace distance; the files will be closed insensibly when the horsemen understand what they have to do. *Fig. 4.* Before beginning the wheel, they will be halted to prevent disorder.

At the end of this exercise the platoon will be formed in two ranks, break it off by two or four to return to quarters, where it will be formed into two ranks. The platoon will dismount, as has been prescribed in the second drill, § 11, *chap. IV. page 52*, excepting that at the command, *prepare to dismount*, the numbers 1 and 3, of the first rank, advance four paces, while 2 and 4 rein back the same distance.

In all cases this principle should be conformed to, when a troop is in two ranks.

## CHAPTER VI.

## § 1. EXERCISES OF CAVALRY...ACCOUTRED.

AS soon as the men who compose the troop begin to have a firm easy hand, and exercise with some ease, the most particular attention to every minute part of the drill must be paid; the exactness and particularity of instruction encrease with the improvement.

The horses are now saddled, and men equipt with swords and belts. When brought to parade, the men dismount and stand to their horses, waiting for the word. The motions of mounting will be performed and all the preliminary instruction by the teacher explained and repeated with the utmost minuteness, as in the present section.

The horsemen being posted in front of their horses, (*as in the engraving, page 31,*) and counted off by the voice in fours, from the right; the officer of the drill gives the precaution and preparation, as in preceding drills.

*Attention.**Prepare to mount.*

At the word *attention*, the whole dress quickly by the right and look well to the front...on the word, *prepare to mount*, and at the last word, the whole raise the left foot, and step by the left about.

Seize with the right hand the ends of the reins, the nails under; in going round, run the left hand along, and grasp the reins with the left hand about six inches from the horse's beard; the files two and four reining back their horses to the distance of four yards from their position in the rank, dressing opposite the intervals which they have left; the files one and three stand fast. Pass the reins over the head by the right ear, and resume position.

The front figures marked by shading represent the odd files or horses of the front rank, those without shading represent the even files or horses reined back, as in *plate XIII. fig. 1.*



Separate the reins, so that they may not be mistaken for each other, step to the side and stand opposite the shoulder of the

horse, the left foot opposite the near fore foot of the horse, bringing up the right foot at the same instant about two inches behind the left heel, without loosing the reins.

Raise the reins with the right hand, bear the ends of the reins in the right hand and stretch to the full length of the right arm, let the left hand fall lightly on the horse's neck, place the little finger of the left hand between the reins, and seize a sufficient quantity of the mane with the other fingers of the left hand.

Let fall the doubled ends of the reins from the right hand to the off side of the horse, and with the right hand seize the stirrup strap near the stirrup iron.

### *Mount.*

Draw back the right foot about six inches behind the left, raise the left foot and place it in the stirrup, holding with the left hand firmly by the mane, and place the right hand on the cantle of the saddle; rise erect in the stirrup, and look along to the right of the rank; carry the right leg over the croup of the horse without touching, and take the seat dexterously and with ease in the saddle; place the right hand on the right holster cap, place the right foot in the stirrup by the action of the foot only, separate the reins and adjust them with the aid of the right hand; hold the reins of each side in the right and left hands; and wait for the word.

At this period the young horseman is to be again particularly instructed in the various particulars of the proper seat, the management and use of the reins, the importance of attention to the horse's mouth.

He must be instructed in the most minute particulars, that the horse is governed by the rider, principally through the *touch*, or by that sensibility of the horse's mouth, which feels every motion of the hand on the bridle; that this touch is technically called the *appui* or *support*, because upon its perfection depends the most effectual management of the horse.

That the bit, the snaffle, the reins, and all the parts of the bridle, should be so carefully adapted to the horse, as to fit with exactness and ease to the horse; that the bit shall not be too large nor too small, nor the head stall so much drawn up as to pucker the mouth; that the curb chain, shall be so adjusted as not to press the under lip, nor yet so loose as to fret the horse by its action; that by a proper use of the bridle hand, the rider has it in his power to refresh the horse's mouth, and increase or diminish his action.

The thighs shall lie in an inclined direction, without any muscular straining or stiffness of the knees or body; the knees shall be so placed as that the legs shall hang behind the line of the stirrup leathers perpendicularly down, and that the toe shall en-



ter the stirrup on its outermost side, and that the horizontal bars of the stirrup shall sustain the foot at the balls of the toes, suffering the heels to sink about an inch lower than the bar of the stirrup iron.

The inner muscles of the thigh by a simple movement of the heel, is brought to be flat on the saddle, and the knees are by the same motion brought to a better position, and the foot is naturally placed on a line parallel with the length of the horse. The figure of the rider is divided into three parts...one immovable, the other two movable; the legs from the knees down, and the body from the hips up, are the two moveable parts; the immovable is between the hips and knees, in the firmness of which consists the excellence of the seat, as exemplified by dotted lines in the standing figure, *plate VII. fig. 1.*

The body must not, therefore, lean forward; the head and breast must be erect; the position on the seat must resemble in its inertness the pressure of a bag of sand of the same shape upon the saddle, and the whole of the body and head must be as unconstrained as if seated in an easy chair: the shoulders easily falling; the upper arm free at the shoulder and moving at the elbow and at the wrist; the elbow close but not pressing to the body, and never carried behind the body.

It should be observed, that the manner in which a horse carries his head, will very much govern the position of the bridle hand. Thus if the horse carries a high head, the wrist must be dropt, to lower his nose. If he carries his head low, the hand must be carried high to raise the horse's head. But when the hand is once placed, the wrist should be immovable and all the action allowed should come from the elbow joint.

The body must be flexible and give way to the action of the horse in motion, without altering the seat, or the position of the thighs, knees, or legs, and keeping the body erect and well balanced at all times. Upon any sudden or unexpected motion of the horse, the rider will very soon find that he can hold by the muscles of the thighs, and the calves of the legs if requisite; but such holds are not to be retained longer than is absolutely necessary, and should never be resorted to but to preserve or to restore the seat, or to prepare the horse for motion, or keep him in the action that is required. No muscle can be in constant exercise without losing some of its power.

The aids of the legs should be taught with renewed care, and so frequently repeated that the mind should be always impressed with their importance; and the delicacy of the use of these aids should be particularly enforced; cautioning the persons instructed, that the degree of sensibility of horses is unequal, or that some are more sensible than others, to the action of every kind of aid; that the aids must be used to induce the horse forwards, or to turn to the right or the left

side; that the aids should be used gradually and not by any sudden pressure, but by a gentle commencement and encreasing of the pressure of the leg, until the movement required is executed as wished, then gradually resuming the ordinary position. That when it is intended to make the horse go forward, the pressure of the horse will be by the legs behind the girth, without any raising or opening of the knees, but they must be kept close in the natural position of the seat at all times.

The method of mounting should be uniformly taught and practised; the rein always in hand; and if the horse be not perfectly well broken and accustomed to stand, or if he be restive or vicious, disposed to kick or bite, the position taken enables the recruit to prevent injury and keep him in hand. The recruit must always be taught to know that if his horse be not perfectly managable, that he must not betray any apprehension or want of confidence in himself. Should the horse attempt to move forward when about to mount, the recruit should shorten the inner rein so as to bend the neck a little, in which position he can neither plunge nor rear, and if he moves it must be on the ground he occupies, and it is easier to mount him in that inclination of the horse's neck.

By raising the wrist a little the horse is put in motion; by raising the wrist more, and with greater force, he is stopped.

By opening the right rein, the horse is made to turn to the right.

By opening the left rein to turn to the left.

By lowering the wrist a little, liberty is given to the horse to go forward, as laid down in the five positions of the hand, *chap. III. § 4.*

#### § 2. FORMING DOUBLE FILES FROM A FLANK.

The squad being now mounted and in two ranks at open order, the officer will apprise them that there are several modes by which the troop or squad may be formed into two ranks from one; and although that just practised is always adapted for the parade, others will be requisite, from their analogy to field movements.

That they will now form single rank in the manner of the former drills, in order to form double ranks by another method; they will then receive the word:

*Attention.*

*The rear rank will take care to enter the intervals.*

*Front....form....march....halt.*

They will now be told off from the right by numbers, *one, two, three, four, five, six, &c.* to the left, and the centre file being formed at the half rank, say thirty-two in front, the seventeenth file becomes the right of the half rank. The officer will command:

*Attention.*

*Take care to form double files, by moving the left half rank to the rear of the right.*

*Right half rank....forward....march....halt.*

*Left half rank....files right face....march....front....halt.*

The right half rank advances about four yards in front of its first position, at the word *march*; and at the word *face*, the left half rank turns by files to the right, moves forward, and forms to the same front, upon the same ground which was occupied by the right half rank, covering the files of the front rank, and halting. The officer will then give the word to resume the position in single rank :

*Attention.*

*Take care to form single rank, by the movement of the rear to the left of the front rank.*

*Front rank....stand steady.*

*Rear rank by files to the left....march.*

*Front form....march....dress....halt.*

The left hand man of the rear rank, on the word *left*, turns his horse to the left, and moves to a distance equal to the length of the front of the half rank, when he fronts; and every file of the rank performs the same movement, facing to the front as they reach the proper distance of the preceding file; when the whole are arrived the word *front* is given, and they move to the front and dress by the right of half ranks.

They are then instructed in the movement by double files from the right, which corresponds with the movements of infantry, whether in single or double rank, and are executed by the same words of command; that is, advancing by sections of two from the right to the front....wheeling into sections of two to the right....or when in double ranks advancing by double files two in front, and the files of the rear rank constantly retaining their position in rear of their file leaders; or being in double rank, and going to the right by a facing of each rank, so that the front rank shall form the left, and the rear rank the right of the files, (*as in plate IL. of the countermarch,*) but no evolution can be correctly made from this order without resuming the original disposition; so that if a troop be to pass through a place where it may be attacked on the left, the right being in front, the whole may be formed by a simple facing of files; if an attack be expected on the right on the march, then the movement should be made from the left, by facing the whole to the left; and then if attacked on the right, a simple



facing will bring the whole into proper order of battle. These principles are so simple as to require no detailed instruction where a good infantry discipline has preceded the cavalry drills.

When the horsemen have passed through a competent series of exercises in forming ranks in any required manner according to these drills, they are to be taught the method of ranking and sizing, with this difference in the principle from that of infantry, that the cavalry tallest men are to be in the centre of the rank, and the smallest on the right and left successively; they are to be taught to cover the leading files carefully; and to keep exactly the distance of ranks in open and in close order.

That the open order of ranks is the length of a horse from the croup of the front rank of horses to the nose of the rear rank; that in close order, the distance is half a horse's length; and in very close order, at only two feet apart.

That in all evolutions of the ranks in the double order, the files of the rear rank all number with their leading files, and whatever may be the number of the section named in front, that the rear rank will be comprehended, and must in wheeling or forming column, and on all occasions where not otherwise ordered, follow the movements of their file leaders.

### § 3. WHEELING PLATOON IN THE DOUBLE ORDER.

This is a very important part of the cavalry discipline, because the effect of cavalry very much depends upon the compactness, promptitude, and precision of their movements.

The squad being formed, mounted, and the ranks doubled by reining back the even files; the files open, and the ranks at the order of evolution, or half a horse length apart, *plate XXI. fig. 1.* the word will be given:

*Attention.*

*The platoon will prepare to wheel in double order upon the right file of the front rank.*

They must be now informed, that upon the word *right*, the files of the rear rank incline their horse's heads to the left or wheeling flank, or from the flank which is to be wheeled upon, and so to place their horses as that each horse of the rear rank shall be in an oblique position, and his head in the rear of the horse next on the left of his proper file leader, or to make a *quarter face to the left*, (*as in fig. 1.*) the whole receive the word:

*Platoon....right....wheel....march.*

The wheeling being accomplished, the exercise will be repeated, by wheeling by the same principles on the left flank and executing the wheelings with closed files, as well as the open order. *Plate XXI. fig. 2.*

In order to accustom the horses to leave the rank, as directed in a preceding drill, a file will be occasionally detached from either rank, front or rear, and moved to the rear or to a flank.

In all these drills, the men must be accoutred completely, with swords and belts. And their habitual parade march will be in column of sections of four.

#### § 4. MOVEMENTS TO THE FRONT IN COLUMN.

The squad being paraded, and in double ranks, will be told off by the voices of the front rank men in sections of four, the rear rank men remaining silent, but taking care to mark their file leaders and their number in section. The guide of evolution places himself on the right of the first section of four, front rank, and will be the guide of that leading section as well as of the column; another will attend to the left and rear. The officer will command:

*Attention.*

*Take care to advance in column of sections of four....right in front.*

They will now be instructed, that in moving, the distance between each file will be no more than that the boot top of each man shall lightly touch that of his comrade on the right or left in the same section. The leading section will keep their eyes well to the front, following the movements of the guide, who on the word *forward*, places himself half a horse length farther forward than the rest of the section.

*In column....forward....march.*

The two ranks of the first section move directly forward; the sections successively to the left, move six paces from their ground forward direct, and then quarter face to the right, until they place themselves in the rear of the leading section.

The gait of movement will be directed to be the walk or trot, according to the manner of the drills in *chapt. IV.* § 4, 5, 6, 7.

#### § 5. WHEELING IN COLUMN.

When the leading section has reached the point at which it is required to wheel, the officer will command:

*Attention.*

*Take care to wheel in column by the left (or right).*

*Left....wheel....march.*

The principle and use of the *pivot* is to be here taught, as the movements will require to be rapid and without disorder; the pivot in cavalry wheelings is not required as in the infantry, to retain the precise ground and wheel on it, but the left hand man of the front rank and section will, at the word *left wheel*, move in the arc of a circle of about five yards, keeping his eyes to the

right or wheeling flank;\* the horseman on the right of the rank or wheeling flank will turn his eyes to the left so as to govern his movement by the pivot; and the second and third men of the section will keep their eyes to the front, accommodating the gait of their horses to those of the files on their right and left; touching the boots of their comrades and drawing the rein to the pivot side of the section; the rear rank will follow in the manner prescribed in the preceding section for the movements of the rear rank; and each section in succession as it reaches the same ground will execute the wheeling in the same manner.

When the wheel is completed, the wheeling flank will resume the gait of general movement before the wheel commenced.

#### § 6. THE OBLIQUE MARCH.

The column of sections of four having wheeled to the left and right at the discretion of the officer, will receive the word:

*Attention.*

*Take care to move in the oblique order to the left in column.*

*Files....left quarter face.*

*Column....oblique order....forward....march.*

At the word *left*, each horseman will quarter face his horse to the left; at the word *march*, the whole will move off in that order, preserving relative distance and uniformity of motion, each moving directly forward. The correctness of the front rank of the leading section will be essential to the accuracy of the sections that follow; and the *guide* of evolution will place himself in front of the right file of the first section at the word *oblique*, and move forward, the right hand file following in his rear, and the files on the left of the right hand file, each keeping the breast of his horse in a line with the head of the horse on his right. *Plate XXI. fig. 3.*

When the column has moved the necessary distance in the oblique order, the word is given:

*Front....forward....march.*

At the word *front*, the ranks are dressed in ranks, by turning the horses to the right; and they move forward as ordered in column direct.

The oblique to the right to be executed on the same principles.

#### § 7. WHEELING BY RANKS OF SECTIONS.

The column being in motion, it is required to form a single rank by wheeling on the left of ranks of sections; the movement will necessarily be distinct for each separate rank. The commands are given:

\* See the drill, chap. III. § 9. page 43.



*Attention.**Prepare to wheel into single rank on the left of ranks of sections.**Ranks of four....left....wheel.*

The left hand man of each rank is now a pivot, and will be reminded how to act; that each will move on an arc of a circle of about five yards; and that the files on their right will accelerate their pace in the wheel. When the wheel is completed in each rank, they receive the word: *Plate XXIII, fig. 1.*

*Dress....forward....march.*

After having moved a suitable distance, they are required to move to the right of ranks, which will bring them into column.

*Ranks of four....left....wheel....forward....march.*

This movement places the column in the reverse order; by repeating the commands it may be brought to its first position.

The squad will now be brought to the left about by fours.

*Attention.**The squad will take care to come to the left about by ranks of four.**Ranks of four....left about....wheel....march.*

In the first wheeling to the left by ranks of four, the first rank of four should perform its movement slowly, in order to afford time to the others to perform theirs in accord and time; but in the second wheel by fours to the left, the last rank of four, which forms the rear, becomes the front of the column, which ought to execute its movement with celerity, that it may not retard the rear of the column.

In wheeling about to the left by fours, the last rank of four ought to execute its movement slow; and so of the left in front.

## § 8. EVOLUTIONS BY FOURS, FROM THE LINE.

When the squad is marching forward, and it is intended to gain ground to the right flank, command:

*Attention.**Ranks of four....right....wheel....march.*

They then present the first disposition to the front, *Plate XXIII. fig. 2.*

It being required to restore them to their original front and order, the command is given: *Plate XXIII. fig. 3.*

*Attention.**Take care to resume the original order of the squad.**Fours....left wheel....*

The intention being to retire from the front then occupied and move to the rear, the command is given;

*Attention.**By fours....left about....wheel.*

This movement reverses the order of the ranks; the rear rank now becomes front, and the front rear; the left of each rank will now become the right, and the right left. *Plate XXIII. fig. 4.*

Having reached the point intended to be taken, the squadron will be brought to its original front and order by the command:

*Attention.*

*Ranks of four...right (or left) about...wheel.*

*Dress...halt.*

The wheelings are all important to be practised, but more especially to the dragoon officer, who must always, in commencing a movement, anticipate the symmetry of his corps, and the mode by which he may re-establish the primitive order at the last movement.

The squad may be then halted, and after a little rest, taught to open ranks for inspection, in the following manner:

#### § 9. ORDER FOR INSPECTION.

*Attention.*

*The squad will prepare to take open order for inspection.*

*Front rank....stand steady.*

*To the rear....open ranks....march.*

At the command *rear*, the flank men of the rear rank will rein back their horses about six yards, a guide of evolution placing himself at the point at which the men will rein back to, as in *Plate XXII, fig. 1.*

If the inspection is to take place in the mounted order, they will now be inspected; if dismounted, the order will be given accordingly, and each rank will rein back its even and odd files as in the drill § 1, *chap. VI. page 65. Plate XIII. fig. 1.*

At the command *march*, the rest of the men of the rear rank rein back, so as to dress by the flank men, and the squad will then form the two ranks in open order, as in *plate XXII. fig. 2.*

This is the position for inspection, which belongs to the general and enlarged discipline, and corresponds in manner and intention with the infantry inspection.

#### OBSERVATIONS.

It will be proper, on the execution of the wheelings by ranks of four, to inform the dragoons of the use and necessity of such a mode of wheeling, that the infantry soldier occupies no more than the same depth as his front in parade; but that the length of the horse being equal to the front occupied by three horses, and the interval of ranks equal to another horse; it requires a space equal to the front of four horses for the movement in cavalry, which corresponds with facing to the *right or left about*, in infantry; for as the single horse could not, like the man, come to the right or left about without breaking the order; by wheeling four the same effect is produced; and it being necessary to cavalry to have an established order, that of four in front is the best.

## CHAPTER VII.

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### *FORMATION OF THE TROOP,*

#### § 1. THE ORDER OF PARADE.

A TROOP of dragoons for the mounted service should consist of one captain, three lieutenants, one cornet, one master of the sword, and one quarter master, the two last warrant officers.

Five serjeants, eight corporals, one hundred privates, one trumpeter, and one bugler, two farriers, and one saddler.

The composition and number of one troop gives that of every troop. The order of formation is two ranks; so that every troop gives fifty files front, exclusive of officers, sub-officers, and supernumeraries.

The troop should be divided into four squads; for the police, discipline, and good conduct of a squad, the subaltern should be responsible to the captain.

To each squad there should be attached an equal number of non-commissioned officers, who should be responsible for the police, discipline, and demeanor of the squad, to the officer placed over it.

Each squad should be divided into messes, in such a manner that no mess be without a non-commissioned officer, who should be responsible for the good conduct of the mess, for the clean and careful dressing of provisions, and for the cleanliness of quarters, and the due distribution of the necessary duties of the mess, turning out to stables, guards, parades, &c.

On parade the officers and non-commissioned officers are distributed on the flanks of the sections into which the troop is divided.

The troop is formed on foot parade and on the mounted parade in the same manner as the infantry, when in the order of two ranks or double files.

Mounted, the ranks in parade order are at the length of a horse apart, measuring from the tail of the horses of the front rank to the noses of the horses of the rear rank.

Each man, in parade order, six inches from the knees of the men on his right and left.

In close order of rank, the men of each rank are boot top to boot top or knee to knee.

In close order of ranks in evolution, the ranks are half a horse's length apart.



In closest order, the rear rank is within one or two feet of the rear of the front rank.

In openest order, that is when the files are close and it is required to mount or dismount; the ranks are two horse's length apart, because in order to mount or dismount, the even files of each rank must rein back to half a horse's length.

The troop on parade is divided into two equal parts, called half troops or platoons, on the right of the first rank of the first or right platoon is the place of the captain in every situation of manœuvre and evolution, with the following exceptions only. When the troop is in exercise, and the captain the senior officer, he is in front faced to the troop for command, and the first lieutenant occupies his place on the right of the platoon.

When the troop is paraded in open order for parade or inspection, the captain is advanced a horse length in front of the second file of his troop, and all officers on the left dress by him.

When a troop leads a column, the captain is in front of the first section of the column; but when there are several troops in the column, unless for parade, no other than the captain of the leading troop is advanced in front, every other captain preserves his position on the right of the first section of his troop.

The first lieutenant is always on the right of the second platoon or half troop. When the troop is divided into quarter troops or half platoons, the two lieutenants take the right of half platoons.

Every officer who takes post in the front rank in the troop, is covered in the rear rank by a non-commissioned officer.

The cornet, master of the sword, and the quarter master, with such serjeants as are not on the flanks of platoons or coverers, form a supernumerary rank; but in open order in line, the cornet takes the centre of the rank of officers; the master of the sword dresses on the right of the front rank two paces from the flank, and the quarter master two paces on the left; the trumpeters on the right four paces from the master of the sword; the farriers on the left four paces from the quarter master.

When the troop parades in squadron, the dispositions do not vary, unless the standard be on parade; the colors are then carried by one of the cornets, and the other cornet takes post on his right, from which he does not depart but with the colors.

The masters of the sword of the two troops cover the cornets in the rear rank; and when the colors are advanced to the centre at open order in the rank of officers, the masters of the sword form in the front rank, and preserve the places of the cornets until close order, when they resume their places.

The masters of the sword must in all evolutions adhere to the colors, unless they should be ordered in exercise to act as guides.

A troop paraded is to be supposed in a state of discipline for inspection, review, or service; and the principles of formation, and the positions of the officers and sub-officers, are to conform to the several dispositions which are made.

## § 2. PRIVATE PARADE.

Forming of the troop is first made on the stable, or troop, parade, as they must be presumed to march to the grand parade of squadron, or regiment, in order for immediate duty.

The dragoons, accoutred, lead their horses to the troop parade, and form upon a front designated by the officer present, or by the senior serjeant, standing by the left side of their horse's heads, and at an easy distance apart. When the whole have formed rank, the command is given:

*Attention.*

*Front....form.*

*March....dress....halt.*

The men disengage their bridles and place the reins on their left arms, come round by the right, and move to the front of their horse's heads, where they dress by the right and halt, as in the engraving, *page 31.*

*By double files....tell off.*

*One, two....one, two....one, two.*

*Even files.*

*To open order....rein back....march.*

The even files rein back in the rear of their interval and face to the front, as in the first position.

*Prepare to mount.*

The men now retire to their horses by coming to the left about, and both ranks place the reins over the horse's necks, and make the preparation as directed in the drill, *sec. 1, chap. VI.*

*Mount.*

The whole mount as directed in the drills.

The ranking and sizing of cavalry being usually executed on a principle different from infantry; that is, the tallest men of the troop are to be in the centre, and the smallest on the flanks of the single troop; where there is a squadron, one troop may have the tallest men on the right, the other on the left; this will be regulated by the advantages or disadvantages which it may present; but at this point the ranking and sizing takes place.

They receive the word:

*Rank and size.*

And the serjeants look to the proper distribution of the men in a single rank; the non-commissioned remaining in a single rank on the front or rear until the privates are sized; when this is accomplished, the senior serjeant posts the non-commissioned officers, by directing the men to tell off, by the voice, their numbers, from right to left; and the corporals shall be so

posted as that there shall be one on the right of each of the half platoons.

The rank is now in order, each file at six inches apart, and it is required to form double files ; they receive the order :

*Attention.*

*Take care to form double files.*

*Tell off.*

*One, two....one, two.*

*Even files take open order....march....dress.*

*The whole....to the right....incline....march.*

The files are now closed in the manner taught in the drills, *chap. V. § 12, plate XIV. fig. 3.*

The first serjeant is to act as principal guide and as serjeant major of the troop.

One serjeant places himself upon the right of the front rank ; another on the right of the second half troop ; these are to be the cover files of the captain on the right.

The other serjeants fall into the rear rank behind those posted, until they reach the grand parade or are joined by their officers.

When the officers are present and there is no more than a troop, the captain is in front ; and the officers in their positions on the right of their sections of the troop covered by non-commissioned officers.

The whole being placed and posted, are told off by fours, the front rank only telling, the rear rank taking care to note their number ; and, to prove them, by the show of hands, the officer will give the word :

*Rear rank proof....left of fours.*

*Rear rank proof....right of fours.*

If the movement be in the front of the position to be paraded on, and it be required to move off four in front, the movement will be by sections of four, the rear rank of the section following the front ; and each section in succession following by a quarter wheel to the rear of the leading section, and so each in succession.

In this order the captain, acting as commander, may choose his position on either side or in front, but the platoon officer on the right, moves in front of the second file of the section ; and his covering serjeant on the right of the front rank of the first section acting as guides.

The other officers move upon the right of their sections, their coverers and the supernumeraries, either filling up vacant files or moving on the left.

When the head of the column reaches the grand parade they are moved into order by posting the leading section in the required direction, and the command :



*Attention.*

*The troop will take care to form on the left of the leading section.*

*Forward....march....dress....halt.*

Should it be preferred to march in a front of double files, from the right, the captain will give the word :

*Attention.*

*Prepare to move by files from the right of ranks.*

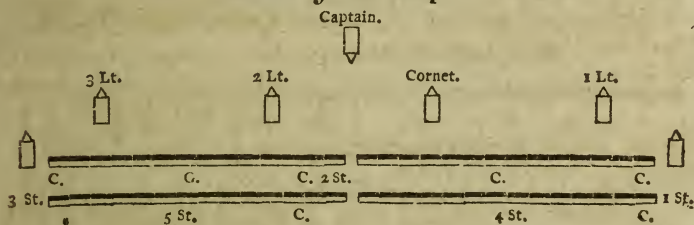
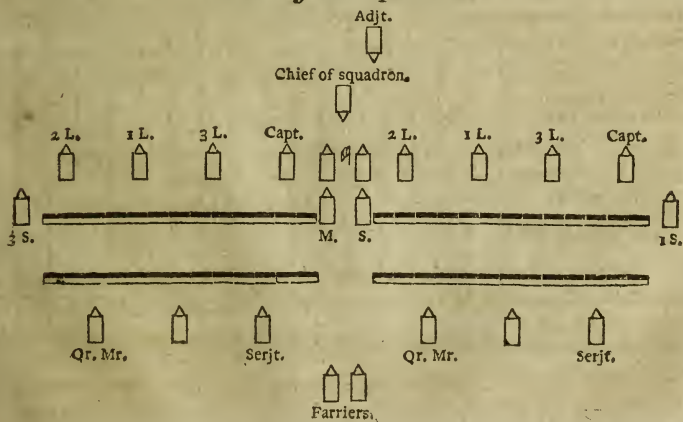
*Right face....march.*

The right hand man of each rank moves his horse to the right, and the captain moves off; the other officers either form files with their coverers, or march on the right of the column.

If it be required to augment the front to four in front while thus in motion, it will be accomplished by the even files of each rank doubling upon the left of the odd files, at this word :

*Ranks....front form sections of two....march.*

The double order or original front may now be formed by wheeling to the left on the even files of ranks.

*Order of the troop.**Order of the squadron.*



The parade is conducted in the following manner: if the troop be detached in separate barracks or quarters, by squads or the like, each squad parades a quarter of an hour before the time of general parade, and is inspected there; if the whole troop be at one station, they move to the troop parade and form in single rank; the first serjeant dresses the rank and sizes them, if the squads are not already sized, which they should be and numbered by the size roll. The parade in garrison is usually without arms, in camp never without arms, as a camp always implies the neighborhood of an enemy.

The only arms dismounted is the sabre, unless the troop be provided with musketoons or rifles, in which case the musketoon is carried by the swivel of a belt which passes over the left shoulder to the right side and crosses the sword belt. The inspection of the fire arms is the same as in the infantry. Swords being drawn and personal appearance inspected, swords are returned, and they are told off, *one, two...one, two...* from right to left. As all the movements of cavalry should be analogous, they must be formed into double files by a mode corresponding with the formation mounted; that is, by composing the second rank of the even files and the first rank of the odd files, which may be accomplished with the greatest readiness in the following manner, the officer ordering:

*Attention.*

*The troop will take care to wheel into double files by the left, the even file the pivot.*

*Double files....left wheel....front face...halt.*

If any foot drill is to be performed, or they are to be marched to the squadron or regimental parade, they are moved off by a facing to the right.

If they parade mounted, the same course will be pursued, only that pistols, holsters, cartridge box, and accoutrements, will be examined; and when formed into two ranks, the even files will be reined back, as in the drill, *chap. VI. § 1.*

#### § 4. REGIMENTAL PARADE.

The several troops being marched to their numerical stations in the regiment, to which the adjutant will attend and see that the ranks are properly dressed; the men are at rest, and the officers collect in front of the centre, until the commanding officer arrives, when he gives the word *parade*: the officers repair to their posts; the captains and lieutenants on the right of their platoons; the other commissioned officers form a rank in the rear, with the quarter master and master of the sword dividing the length of the troop between them; the officers in the front rank covered by serjeants, and the other supernumerary serjeants forming in this supernumerary rank.



The regiment is then told off by files, or one man front and one man rear rank ; by two or double files, being two of both ranks ; by fours ; by half platoons or fourth parts of the troop ; by platoons or half troops ; by troops ; by squadrons ; two troops to a squadron ; and four squadrons to the regiment. The troops numbering *one, two three, four*, from right to left ; and the squadrons, first and second squadron.

The squadron officers take their posts, and the commanding officer gives the word :

*Attention.*

*Rear rank....take double distance.*

*March.*

The squadron officers advance three horse lengths in front of their squadrons, faced towards them ; the troop officers take post at a horse length in front of their troops faced from them, and the commissioned officers who were in the rear, facing outward, move to the front, and passing between the officers posted and the troop, divide the front between them, dressing by the captains on the right. The covering serjeants advance to the front rank, and the master of the sword and quarter master take their stations on the right and left of the front rank or with the colors, the musicians and farriers take post on the right or as may be ordered.

The inspection of the front rank is then performed, dressing to the front from right to left and by the rear of the same rank ; in like manner in front of the rear rank and round by its rear.

The inspection being accomplished, the guard which is paraded on the left of the regiment, if not manœuvred, is ordered to close ranks, and is moved off in good order.

The adjutant must be prepared with the aggregate report of the strength of the several troops, which he presents to the commanding officer at the word *parade* being given.

#### § 5. OF THE SWORD.

The instruction for the sword exercise for action is the particular duty of the master of the sword, and it is an indispensable acquirement for the dragoon. The parade motions of the sword are alone intended in this section.

The sword is drawn on all grand parades, on all parades of honor, and whenever the troop has arrived at the discipline of the squadron, on all dress parades and evolutions. After the word *attention*, when the ranks are dressed in open or close order, is the time of drawing swords on the parade of inspection and evolution. The motions are few and simple, and should be taught in drill whenever the troop is organized.

The sword of the United States' light dragoon is the sabre with a stirrup hilt. Every sabre should be provided with a stout buff leather sword-knot of about an inch broad and nine inches long in the double, and a firm knot and tassel at the end ; it should be run

upon the hilt by a slip of the knot through the double of the strap, and when the sword is about to be drawn, the hand should be run through the strap, which should be placed on the wrist, and secured to the proper length by two or three turns of the hand passing within the sword from left to right by the body, circling outward and round by the left, and thence to the right and round by the left again. When the sword is to be drawn, the word is given :

*Attention.*

*Draw....swords.*

At the word *attention*, every eye is fixed to the front, the bridle is held in the first position in front of the body, the right hand suffered to fall by the right side. At the word *draw*, the right hand is raised handsomely, and carried over the left arm above the elbow, the eyes directed to the sword hilt, and the knot is briskly placed and twisted inward on the wrist; the hand seizes the sword hilt, and the eyes are thrown to the front for the motion. At the word *swords*, the sword is drawn from the scabbard by a full extension of the right arm.

*Poise....swords.*

The hilt is brought down handsomely, so that the blade shall be perpendicular and in front of the left eye, the edge to the left, and the closed hand resting on the pap of the left breast, the back of the hand to the front

*Carry....swords.*

The sword hand, rested in that position an instant, is carried over the bridle hand to the cap of the right holster, the edge in the direction of the left ear of the horse, and the motion is completed.

*Slope....swords.*

The hand is raised one or two inches, drawn near to the body, and the sword suffered to fall gently on the right shoulder, edge upward.

*Port....swords.*

This motion may be preceded by bringing the sword to the *carrying* position, and then extending the sword hand a few inches in front of the right hip, placing the sword diagonally across the body, so that the upper part of the sword shall be in front of the left shoulder, the edge to the front, or as in the port of the infantry parade.

*Return....swords.*

The sword must always be brought to the position of carrying, before returning, and not from the *port* or *slope*. Upon the word *return*, the sword is brought to *carry*, then to the *poise*, that is

with the blade erect in front of the left eye, and the hand on the left breast. The point of the blade is gently dropped from the poise over the left arm above the elbow and rested upon the arm, which serves to steady and direct the point to the scabbard. At the word *swords*, the sword is thrust home, the hand extricated from the sword knot, and carried to the right side.

#### § 6. PISTOL EXERCISE.

If the infantry discipline has been duly attended to in the first instruction of the dragoon, the loading of the pistol will require very little practice at the drill to execute it adroitly; but as that may have been neglected through the too little attention paid to the importance of the infantry drills for dragoons, it will be necessary to have special drills for the pistol exercise. The following course will be sufficient for the purpose:

##### *Attention.*

*The squad will take care to perform the loading motions of the pistol.*

##### *Prepare to draw the left pistol.*

At this command the holster caps are loosed, and the position of the body and bridle hand resumed, the right hand suspended easily by the right side.

##### *Draw....pistol.*

The right hand is carried over the left wrist, the cap of the holster cast aside, and the pistol drawn forth; the right hand is brought over the right holster cap, the muzzle upward, and the fore finger on the guard of the trigger.

*Take care to prime and load with cartridge.*

The fingers of the bridle hand are turned upward, and the pistol is placed in the hand, which also retains the reins.

##### *Handle cartridge.*

##### *Open pan.*

##### *Prime.*

##### *Shut pan.*

##### *Load.*

The bridle hand turned so that the fingers shall be lowered towards the left side, places the pistol upright; the cartridge is to be emptied into the barrel.

##### *Draw ramrod.*

##### *Ram down.*

##### *Return ramrod.*

##### *Ready.*



The pistol is at this command cocked.

*Front....aim....fire.*

*Half cock.*

*Load.*

*Return pistol.*

These several motions are sufficiently explanatory in the words of command ; in the first drills they must be minutely performed and at the same time by the whole squad ; always after firing bring the pistol to the carrying position ; the same exercises will then be performed by drawing the *right pistol* ; and the loading motions performed exactly ; and the words of command following will be given in practice.

*Left....aim....fire.*

*Right....aim....fire.*

*Rear....aim....fire.*

The same motions of the loading will be performed with the pistols alternately, always loading the pistol fired and returning it, then drawing the other pistol. These firings first executed on the standing parade, are to be executed in the walk, the trot, and the galloping drills ; halting to prime and load, and advancing to fire ; and firing to right and left in wheeling, and to the rear in wheeling about.

The exercises of the musquetoon are so exactly similar, that only the change of words, *sling the musquetoon*, are requisite instead of *return pistol*.

#### § 7. THE CHARGE BY FILES TO THE FRONT.

The instruction of the dragoon, in the manner of advancing directly upon his front, is of great importance, and great pains should be taken to form the habit to it ; this is best accomplished by causing each individual to practise the movement in the presence of all the rest ; and all officers and sub-officers should be collected and present at this drill.

The squad will be paraded with swords drawn, hand and hilt on the right holster, swords erect, knot over the wrist.

The ground should be ample and clear of obstacles, and the squad formed in double order ; a non-commissioned officer should be placed fifty yards in front of the right of the squad, faced to the left ; another fifty yards farther back in the same direction ; and a third at eighty yards from the second, also faced to the left ; these three non-commissioned officers to serve as *guides*, or points at which the movement is to be augmented in the charge. *Plate XXII. fig. 3.*

Fifty or sixty paces farther in front, and faced towards the squad, the commanding officer takes post, and causes a trumpeter to be placed on his left dressed by him, but directly in front of the right hand file of the squad, as in *plate XXII. fig. 3.*

The officer in command will direct the trumpeter to sound a charge, and the flank files, that is the man of the front rank and the man of the rear rank on the right, and the like on the left of the squad, will each move forward, the right leading file in a walk direct for the trumpeter, the file coverer following at half a horse length distance in the same pace; the left file which moved at the same time keeping dressed and at distance from that of the right.

When the file reaches the first guide he gives the word:

*Trot....march.*

The men place their swords across the body, point to the left shoulder, edge in front.

When they arrive in front of the second guide, the horsemen will raise the sword to a guard, the hand as high as the eyes, and the sword inclining over the left shoulder, the guide will give the word:

*Gallop....march.*

And when they have reached the third guide, the front man of the file will give point with the sword; that is, the point of the sword will be thrown to the front, the blade horizontal, and on a level with the eyes of the rider; the edge outward. The rear man will raise his hand as high as his forehead to the guard. prepared for the cut on either side. The guard will then give the word:

*Charge.*

When they arrive within ten or twelve paces of the trumpeter, the officer will command:

*Attention.*

*Files....halt.*

At the word *attention*, the horsemen abate the pace to a trot; at the word *files*, to a walk, and taking care to dress as they move up to the halting point, they halt at the word, the swords resuming their positions successively at each word. Each file of the squad will execute the same movements.

### § 8. THE GALLOP.

Before the exercises in the gallop are commenced, the *non-commissioned officers* should be taught separately first, and then the squad told with patience and clearness, that a horse gallops on the right foot when it puts forward that foot first in the movement, and continues to use it uniformly so. *Plate VIII. fig. 2.*

That a horse gallops on the left foot, when in moving forward he puts his left foot forward, and continues to do so.

The wheeling to the left in the circle gives the habit of moving with the left foot; wheeling to the right in the circle gives the habit of moving with the right foot; and the well taught horse will always move with the foot nearest to the side towards which it is to move.

A horse gallops false when, turning to the right, he moves first with his left foot; and when turning to the left, he moves with his right.

A horse is said to be disunited when he gallops with feet of different sides at the same time, as when the off hind foot and the near fore foot move together, or the contrary.

To move a horse with his right foot, he is to be kept straight, put the left rein tight, to prevent the left shoulder inclining to the right, and pressing equally with the legs behind the girth; to make him go off with the left, tighten the right rein.

When the horse gallops on the right foot, the rider feels a sensible motion from the horse from the right, and the reverse with the left foot.

When the horse moves disunited, the rider feels an irregular motion in his seat.

To complete men in the correcting the movement of the horse, they must be made to advance from the ranks singly to the front in succession, and when the horse moves false, to be halted and made to trot, and then put to the gallop in the proper manner, until it is completed.

When it is required to make the horse change his foot in movement, press the rein on the opposite side, and the leg on the same side that is required to be moved upon; that is opposing the shoulders to the haunches.

When the men individually are thus taught, they must be all united.

And these instructions must be repeated until the men know how to move their horses properly, and the first drills will be repeated in this accurate manner of moving the horse in front and oblique movements, single and double rank, and the men made to move off by *two, three, four, or five*, from any part of the rank together and return.

#### § 9. EXERCISES OF ARMS AT THE FIGURE.

The pistol and sword exercises being separate subjects of instruction, are presumed to have been taught at this time. Figures of stuffed hay or bran as large as the human head are placed on stakes or posts from five to six feet high, at suitable points in the exercise ground, so securely as not to fall off with a slight stroke, yet so as to be taken off by a stroke of suitable force, as in plate XXIV.

The squad being brought on the ground and formed at two ranks at open order, under the charge of the officer, as at A, B and C, the first man on the right or left of the front rank is ordered to draw his pistol, prime and load, and move off towards the figure head in his front, cock his pistol, carrying the muzzle of the pistol elevated, and his fore finger over the guard of the trigger, with his elbow close to his body, when he receives the word *forward.... march*; and when he arrives near the figure, he aims and fires, as



at F ; he proceeds forward, returns his pistol to the holster, draws his sword, and successively as he passes the figure strikes the direct cut, H ; the horizontal cut to the left, G ; the back horizontal cut, E ; or gives point as at I ; they will change direction successively, and instances will occur where two men cross each other ; they will approach as at D, and cross swords up to the shell after which they will each make a quarter wheel to the left, and resume their places in rank.

The instructor will teach them to carry the sword in front of the body, with the point towards the left shoulder, in moving to strike ; and having struck, to raise the sword to a poise, the hand on the left breast, the blade in front of the left eye, and bring it to the carry in front of the right shoulder.

These exercises may be performed by two squads, or by the files of the two ranks of the same squad moving in opposite directions at the same time.

But the strictest attention must be paid to correct riding, that the position of the rider and the gaits of the horse be correct.

This exercise being to bring the habit to the use of the weapon by experiment on the figure, admits of a great diversity, which the skill of the officer will regulate.

Balls need not be used in the pistols, but a strong wad, which will be sufficient for the purpose.

#### § 10. LEAPING THE BAR.

Drills in leaping the bar will now become an indispensable exercise. The plan of a bar adapted to the purpose is presented in *plate XXV. fig. 1*, with a hole at every distance of four inches in the upright posts, to admit pins, upon which the bar may be placed. The bar will at first be only one foot high, and increased by degrees.

The squad being formed in single rank at 12 to 20 paces from the bar, the officer will command :

**Attention.**

*Take care to leap the bar by single files in succession, commencing on the right.*

**Slow trot....forward....march.**

The horseman will, by the pressure of the legs and moving the hand by the third position of the bridle hand, put the horse in motion ; in leaping, the rider will relax without parting with the curb rein, and rely upon the bridoon ; he will move up with confidence to the bar, and easing the bridoon rein lightly, and using the aids of the legs gently, cause the horse to pass ; if the horse be not prompt, the aid of the spurs on both sides will be necessary, and must be effectual.

As soon as the horse has passed, the bridoon rein is resumed with a firm hand.

In leaping, the horseman must keep a firm seat, the body resting like a sack on the saddle, the knees close, sufficiently to preserve the seat without severe pressure, and the calves of the legs touch the sides without pressure; the loins will be thrown forward and head back at the moment of leaping, and the shoulders thrown forward as the horse reaches the ground beyond the bar.

Horses which refuse must be chastised and not permitted to return to the stable till they have performed their leaps. But leaping should not be too frequently repeated at first.

The exercises of leaping will be next carried to two, three, and four files at a time, then to sections, and finally the whole squad.

It will be proper to accustom horses to rough roads, if there be any in the neighborhood of the troop they must be accustomed to pass them, but without altering their pace, whatever may be the state of the road. Likewise, in ascending or descending declivities, the gait should be uniform. And it will be proper, even where there are no natural obstacles, to make artificial obstacles, to accustom the horses to pass them with confidence and celerity.

## CHAPTER VIII.

## § 1. OF GAITS IN MOVEMENT.

WHEN the horsemen and horses have been sufficiently disciplined to be formed in troop, and the troop organized, it is divided into platoons, the charge of one of which, with a due proportion of non-commissioned officers, shall be placed in charge of a subaltern, who shall take his station with the troop in exercise; and their first exercises in troop will be the performance in good order of such of the preceding drills as the officer shall select, but specially directed to determine and accustom man and horse to an exact gait and to frequent changes of gait; to move with equal celerity or slowness as commanded; and so to manage the horse that he shall exercise gently and without fretting.

## FIRST MILITARY MARCH.

The troop being formed in two ranks of forty-eight or more files, and told off in sections of four from the right, they will be informed that the exercises are now intended for the habituation of the horses to ready and easy obedience; they will then receive the word:

*Attention.*

*Take care to advance in column from the right.*

*Sections of four...forward....march.*

The right sections lead off in an easy pace, and it is continued a short time, as directed in preceding drills, when the word is given:

*Trot....march.*

The horsemen produce this increase of pace in the easiest manner possible, by the lowering of the hand to the second position and the gentle aids of the legs.

After they have trotted some time, the word is given:

*Walk....march.*

These will be alternately commanded two or three times, in different gaits, or until it is satisfactorily accomplished; the word will be given:

*Attention.*

*Front form troop....march.*



The leading section halts ; the sections in the rear successively move by the oblique order into line on the left of the first section, as in *plate XIV. fig. 1.*

After the commanding officer gives the word, the subalterns attached to the subdivisions of the troop will repeat the commands.

At the command *march*, the first section will be formed according to the principles established in the drills.

The other sections will continue to trot in column of fours, and not to form in any other manner until they are commanded.

If front is to be augmented, the number of files front will be named.

If the column is marching by four, the right in front, and the commandant judges proper to form it on the left, or on the right in line, he commands :

*Attention.*

*Take care to form troop or squadron to the left.*

*First section....left wheel....dress.*

*Forward....march....halt.*

The first section having wheeled to the left, will march 20 paces forward and halt ; all the other sections will perform the same movement and form successively on the left of the first section, taking care to follow the same method as the first, in order not to approach the line, and to wheel square with the position in the troop which it is to occupy. *Plate XIII. fig. 3.*

If the line is to be formed on the right, the four first files will wheel to the right, marching forward twenty paces, then halting, all the other files will successively perform the same movements to take their places themselves, on the left of the preceding one, taking care to follow the same direction, not to incline to those already formed.

After the troop has exercised some time it is halted and rested, and will break off by sections of four, performing the same changes of gait in returning to quarters ; and then the horsemen will touch boots without exacting any thing of their horses.

They will march at least a quarter of an hour in walk and before arriving at quarters, the horsemen will then slacken their reins altogether in order to quiet the horses before entering the stable.

In this first military march, as well as in all columns of route, the principal officers of each section will remain on the right flank of their sections ; and the sub-officers as file closers, in the same manner as they are to be placed when the troop is formed. The commanding officer, and the guides of evolution, leading.

If the commandant of the squadron should judge it necessary to march a greater number of officers on the flanks, he will give orders to that effect.

The horsemen being not as yet completed in the principles of wheeling, the necessary change of direction will be performed without commanding, and to round the angle in order to prevent the wheeling flank from being obliged to take so quick a motion.

### SECOND MILITARY MARCH.

The second march will consist of the movements by ranks of four and by sections of eight files front, and by platoons.

### THIRD MILITARY MARCH.

In this third military march, the troop will be formed without halting any section, the column passing successively and frequently from walk to trot and from trot to walk, observing that the changes of gait be always performed with union and precision. The horsemen must be constantly reminded and taught to preserve themselves in an easy position.

#### § 2. TO REGULATE THE CELERITY OF THE GAIT.

If sufficient union and precision have been acquired by the above prescribed military marches, its celerity will then be regulated, for which purpose two distances will be measured along the ground, of 600 yards each, in order successively to go over them in walk and trot. Analogous to the exercises, *plate XXII. fig. 3.*

The celerity of those gaits will be regulated so as to pass over from 97 to 107 paces in a minute, in a walk; and from 196 to 214 paces, in a trot.

The celerity of the gallop will be about 300 paces in a minute; the troop will not assume this gait until well versed in the details of the first, fourth, and fifth sections of this chapter.

In an even piece of ground, the above distances may be gone over in a less space of time, but the gait will only be lengthened on extraordinary occasions; the troop will be prepared for what they are to perform, in such a case, by making them lengthen the trot from time to time; this lesson is seldom to be given, and only when the gaits are free.

These military marches will be repeated until the horses are quiet in the ranks and march with ease, and that the horsemen use neither force nor jerking in passing from the walk to the trot, and that the celerity and unison of the gait be well regulated.

As every movement comes to be made with more rapidity, the horsemen must be required to dress more exactly and keep

in closer order of files, but without being too close, or pressing each other.

In these military marches the troop will break off alternately on the right and left; this will give the officers and horsemen an equal habitude in both modes of marching; the same will be observed every time the squadron or regiment manœuvres.

During the time to rest prescribed for the military marches, the adjutant and quarter master will be exercised in judging of and measuring distances by the trot or gallop of their horses, for which purpose they will often be made to go over the space measured, counting the steps of the horse.

They will also be habituated to judge of the space occupied by the front of a troop, squadron, or regiment, and the number of files composing the front of each.

They will then be taught how to place themselves intermediately between the given points, as explained in § 7, *chap. VII. page 85, plate XXII.*

### § 3. ALIGNMENTS.

The troop being formed in double ranks, each squad of the troop being separately in line in open ranks, three or four horsemen will be marched ten paces in front on the right of each rank, and after having dressed them properly, command :

*Attention.*

*By files....to the right dress.*

At this command, the horsemen are successively to come to the alignment, conforming to the rules prescribed in the drill of horsemen, *Plate XX. figs. 1, 2.*

These horsemen will then be marched forward from the right of each rank, commanding :

*Attention.*

*By files....to the right....dress.*

The same movement will be performed by an oblique march to the point of alignment, *Plate XXVI. fig. 1*; and upon the left, *fig. 3.*

After having exercised the horsemen in the individual dressing, in close file, they will be exercised in open file; then in ranks and close file.

The three files on the right and left of each rank will then be made to rein back four paces, dressing in falling back, this is only to be performed when the rank is in closed order. *Plate XXVI. figs. 2 and 4.*

In all cases where the horsemen are improperly dressed command,

*Front dress.*



At this command the horsemen correct the defect and replace their eyes directly to the front.

#### § 4. ALIGNMENT IN SQUADRON.

The horsemen having been instructed to dress promptly by sections, will now be exercised in dressing in larger bodies, forming the component parts of the squadron; two troops, or one troop divided into two platoons, and subdivided into sections of eight or four, will form the principle for dressing larger bodies.

The troops which are to compose the squadron being placed in double order of ranks, and told off into four platoons, they will be instructed in dressing in the following manner:

The platoon or section on the right will be directed to advance 12 yards, and after having been dressed correctly in a given direction, the officer will command:

*Attention.*

*Take care to advance the right platoon....the platoons on the left will dress by the right platoon advanced.*

*Platoon....forward....march....dress....halt.*

At the word, *platoon*, the right platoon will advance ten yards.

Each commander of platoon will successively command his platoon by repeating the word, *forward....march*. When arrived in line of the right platoon, he will command, *platoon....dress....halt*.

The squadron being dressed and halted, the left platoon will then be made to advance, and the squadron will be dressed to the left by platoons successively, according to the same principles as the preceding.

In alignments of platoons there must not be too much time between the commands, in order not to retard the necessary dressings.

Care will be taken that the sub-officers observe the general alignment of the squadron without paying any attention to the individual dressings.

The attention of the commandant of the squadron in these alignments will be principally directed to the guides of alignment on the wings, and to the standard in the centre, when it is on parade.

The captains on the right of the troops will rectify the alignment of the second rank according to the principles laid down.

#### § 5. OF THE DIRECT MARCH

The principles of the direct march ought to teach the horsemen the manner of executing the following movements:

1st. Of preserving their alignment in marching and of sustaining each other.

2d. Of not pressing too much on each other in rank, and when so, how to regain their proper position.

3d. Of not opening their files too much in marching, and of closing when by any accidental cause separated.

4th. Of not throwing the leader out of his direction, and how to regain the direction when he has been obliged to deviate from it.

The most important point in the direct march is to keep the horse straight, the eyes of the horsemen ought to be constantly directed to the front, yet they ought to know the flank by which they are to be regulated, as they are required to follow all its movements; the leader will habitually be on the right, and when on the left, it will be indicated by directing the eyes to the left, which will be done at the command *march*. The horseman will always gently touch with his boot, that of the next man on the pivot flank, throwing his eyes on the line on that side from time to time, but without turning the head.

The individual alignment ought to be observed by this means in all parts of the march, but for the preservation of the general alignment, the sub-officers will dress by each other, and their troops together.

It has been repeatedly said that the leaders of a troop ought not to move off too abruptly....this instruction must never be lost sight of.

This principle is also applicable to all the horsemen composing a rank, if they should be too much in front or rear of the alignment, too near to or too far from their next file, they will resume their proper places by degrees, however great the distance may be, but continuing at the same time to advance to the front, and lose no ground by the effort to close.

If the files should open, the horsemen will close towards the side of the leading flank or pivot, pulling the rein that way; if too much pressed in the ranks, the rein is to be tightened towards the outward or wheeling flank, without violence or jerking; in both cases they will gain ground to the front while inclining to either side.

When the leader of a troop, marching forward, perceives he is thrown out of his direction, he will raise his right hand, extending it to the full length of the arm, the back of the hand towards the side to be moved upon; to indicate that he is forced from his position, and that the movement must be in that direction, all the horsemen of his rank who perceive the motion, will pull the rein to that side without turning the head.

#### § 6. DIRECT MARCH BY RANKS OF PLATOONS.

When the horsemen are to be exercised in the direct march, the instruction will be commenced by ranks of platoons.

The officers commanding the ranks of each platoon having so placed their platoons, that they may march some time without changing direction, will dress the horsemen by the right, the files will be opened a pace distant; they will give to the horseman on the right, a point of direction perpendicular to his front in the rank, *plate XXIX. fig. 1*; and before going off he will take some intermediate object between the point he sets out from (as a tree) and that at which he is to arrive, never losing sight of these two objects, and constantly keeping himself in that direction, by being himself in a direct line with both while moving.

As the horseman approaches the intermediate point he has taken, he must fix upon another farther off in the same direction, and keep these points as guides for his movement.

The platoon will then be moved forward, the guides taking their line of movement from the word *forward*, the rest of the platoon from the word *march*.

The officer will command:

*Attention*

*Take care to advance in order of platoon.*

*Forward....march.*

At the command *march*, each horseman will go off straight forward in a walk, observing the same degree of motion as his comrades of the same rank on the side of the leader, turning from time to time his eyes on his side, without turning the head.

When about changing direction command:

*Attention.*

*Platoon.*

*Halt.*

All the horsemen being come to a halt, two or three men of the front rank will be placed on the right in the new direction, by which the others will dress, on receiving the word to wheel, half wheel, or quarter wheel upon them, as the case may be; they will then receive the word:

*Forward....march.*

The movement with the guide on the left will be performed according to the same principle.

When the horsemen have been sufficiently instructed in conducting their horses straight in the walk, they will be made successively to open and close the files, marching in the same gait, not repeating these movements too quickly after one another, but marching a long time after having closed the files without opening them, and after having opened without closing them.



To open or close files, command :

*Attention.*

*To the right (or left) open files.*

*March....forward.*

The same method in opening and closing to the left, and is to be accomplished by passaging, as taught in the first drills.

The files will always be opened to the flank opposite the guide, and closed towards the pivot; in the movements the horsemen will gain ground to the front, so as to incline insensibly to the flank required.

The horsemen having performed these different movements in walk to the right and left, will be made to trot; and in this gait, in like manner, to open and close files in marching, after changing from walk to trot and from trot to walk, by rank of platoons.

#### § 7. DIRECT MARCH BY PLATOONS.

Each platoon will be formed in two ranks; the files at two feet apart, that is in open order of files at two feet apart: and the ranks, at half a horse length distance; the exercise will commence by closing and opening files of both ranks, in the same manner as practised in the drills § 3. *chap V plave XIV fig 3.* only that as the ranks were faced from each other in that exercise; both will now be exercised in closing and opening files, in their regular order faced to the same front.

The horsemen of the second rank, besides being dressed in line, will exactly cover their file leaders at the proper distance in their rear.

When the direction is to be changed in marching, it will be performed by wheelings, in which the rear rank will be governed by the drills of the oblique method.

When the horsemen have been sufficiently exercised in the principles of the direct march, in order to strengthen them therein, and make them become expert, faults may be sometimes committed in order that they may learn how to correct them; for example, a platoon will be made to march, and the guide will be directed to accelerate his gait insensibly from time to time without command; then repeat to the horsemen how they are to rectify the dressing when they are thus thrown in the rear of the alignment.

A platoon will be ordered to march, and the guide on the right to accelerate his gait gradually, without any other command; the horsemen are to be instructed how to rectify the dressing in line, when thus thrown in the rear of their guide.

Plate XXVII. fig. 1. represents the platoon with the guide on the right augmenting the gait, advancing out of the alignment; and one file of the platoon advancing with him; the covering file following the leader of the front rank;

The leader will then be told to slacken his gait for some paces, and the horsemen will be directed to correct their dressing when thus thrown in front of the alignment. *Plate XXVII. fig. 2.*

To habituate the horsemen to close files when too open, a platoon will be made to march, and at the moment when the horses are quiet, the guide on the left will be told to incline to the left; the horsemen will then be instructed in the means of closing to the guide or pivot when thus separated from him. *Plate XXVII. fig. 3.*

The guide will be told to incline gradually to the left, which will occasion a pressure in the ranks; the horsemen will then be directed to practise the rules prescribed for opening the files; this occasion will be used to caution them against correcting irregularities suddenly and with violence, which can only occasion new difficulties. *Plate XXVII. fig. 4.*

When the platoon has acquired the intelligence and address necessary to prevent quick and sudden motions, all that has been prescribed will be performed in a trot.

Before proceeding to the direct march by squadron, the horsemen will be prepared therefor by practising by platoons or half troops or troops, what has been prescribed for the direct march by squadron.

#### § 8. THE DIRECT MARCH BY SQUADRON.

When the horsemen are sufficiently instructed in all they are to perform in the direct march, by platoon and troop, the squadron will be united.

Before the squadron marches, two or three files of both ranks on the right and left of the four platoons of the squadron will advance perpendicularly to the point proposed for the new alignment, carefully preserving a space equal to the front of their platoons, between them. Guides for distance may be placed on a flank as in the drill of the direct march, *plate XXII.* The commanders of platoons and guides of evolution on the wings will march with the advancing files; the guides will thus be accustomed not to regulate themselves by the horsemen of their ranks, but only by the rank collectively; they will march in this manner in a walk and trot. *Plate XXVIII.*

When the guides placed on the flanks of the platoons can perform the direct march in this manner correctly, the other files of the platoon will be made to advance into the spaces thus marked out by the advanced files, and the squadron is thus united. The several marchings above prescribed will be practised, and the same changing of gait, except that the files will not be opened or closed, nor faults committed intentionally in marching by squadron.

When the squadron is to advance with the platoon on the right, the guide on the right wing will advance to the alignment of the officers in front ; the officers of the supernumerary rank of the first platoon will replace him on the wing of the squadron. Then command :

*Attention.*

*Squadron....forward....march.*

Before the command is given, the commanding officer will indicate to a guide on the right, a fixed point of direction, perpendicular to the front of the squadron, intermediate with some fixed object, a tree, or house, or church ; the guide will take this intermediate point, and successive points will be taken, if required, as explained, § 6. *page 95. Plate XXIX. fig. 1.*

One officer in rear of the line with the given point, will indicate it to the sub-officer, who replaces the guide that advances from the flank of the squadron, this last making use of the intermediate points to keep himself in the direction.

The guide on the right of the first rank will keep the distance that was between him and the guide, marching in front at starting : so directing himself that the guide in front of him covers the point of direction indicated by the commandant of the squadron. Each horseman in the front rank will touch the boot of the man next him on the side of the guide of the right, but so as not to press on him.

The officer in the rear of the rank will not move with the squadron, but remain behind the right wing, until he is assured that the direction is correct, of which he will judge in the following manner : If he perceives that the horsemen close together, and are obliged to put the rein to the left, he will command another point, more to the right, to be taken with the correspondent intermediate ones ; if, on the contrary, the horsemen open too much to the right, and are obliged to pull the rein to that side, he will command a point more to the left, with correspondent intermediate points.

The officer of the squadron will accelerate the gait until assured that the squadron marches correctly to the given point. When the squadron is to be exercised in marching with the guide on the left, what has been directed for the squadron with the guide on the right will be conformed to, following the same principles with the reverse movements.

When the squadron is to be halted, the commandant will command :

*Attention.*

*Squadron....dress.*

*Halt.*

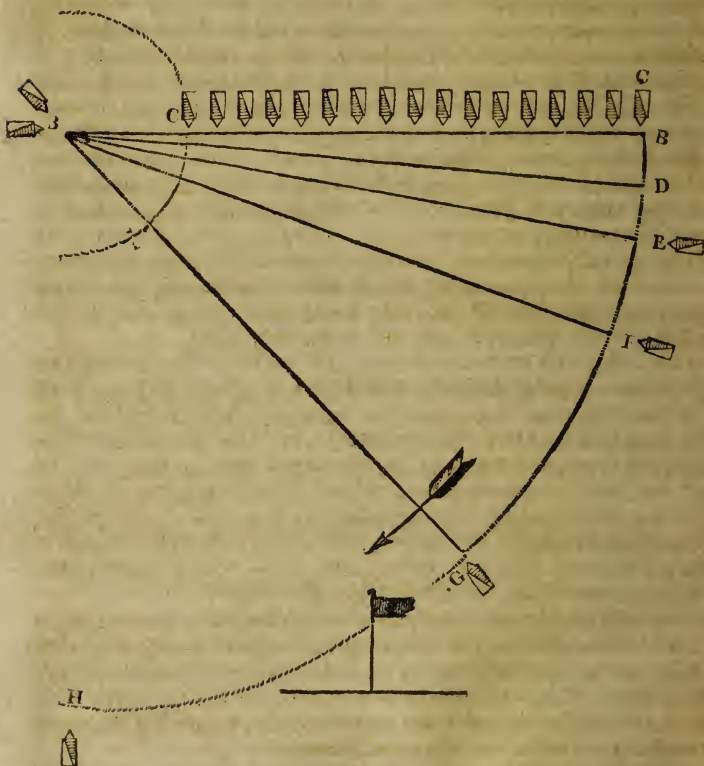
These commands will be performed as explained in § 4. *page 94, of the present chapter.*



## § 9. DRILL OF THE DIRECT MARCH IN GALLOP.

The horsemen will then be exercised in the direct march in gallop, commencing by ranks of platoons only, following all the instructions prescribed for the exercise in the trot, excepting that the opening and closing of files must no longer be admitted designedly for the purpose of correcting them. When the ranks are united in the movement the second rank always preserves its distance with precision. In marches in the gallop, change to a trot and then to a walk before halting.

A.....A



- A. A. The line on which a troop executed a wheel upon the right.  
 B. B. The line upon which the wheeling was completed.  
 C. C. The troop formed behind the line B. B.  
 A. C. I. The arc of the movement of a moving pivot.  
 B. D. E. F. G. H. The arc of the wheeling or outward flank.  
 B. The standing pivot. D. and E. are the lines of short wheelings.  
 F. Is the line of a quarter wheeling, the guide faced to the pivot flank.  
 G. The guide of the half wheel. H. The guide of the entire wheel.

These are intended to illustrate the general principles of wheeling, in chap. IX.

## CHAPTER IX.

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### § 1. OF CIRCULAR MARCHING AND WHEELING.

**T**HERE are two kinds of wheelings, one on a fixed pivot and one on a movable one.

In each kind of wheeling, the conductor of the wheeling flank ought so to describe his arc of the circle as not to open or close the files; each horseman of the first rank ought so to regulate his movement on the arc of the circle as to proportion his distance from the pivot to his position in the standing rank.

As all these arcs of circles of the same rank must commence and terminate at the same time, it is necessary that each horseman should march quicker in proportion as he is farther from the pivot, and slower as he is nearer.

During the wheeling, the horsemen ought to have their eyes turned towards the wheeling flank, gently touching the boot of the man next them on the pivot flank, in order to regulate their gait on that wing, and keep themselves dressed in line.

The horsemen of the first rank will very gently pull the bridle to the pivot flank, to make their horses describe the portion of the circle they are to move in.

It is a principle in all wheelings, when the horsemen from any cause open too much, to close the interval gradually, gaining ground in front at the same time, without inclining the horses too suddenly.

### § 2. WHEELING ON A FIXED PIVOT.

In wheeling on a fixed pivot, the pivot should never be pushed out of his place; the horseman therefore will resist the pressure from the wheeling flank, and yield to that from the pivot flank.

When the files are too open, they ought to close towards the pivot, but gradually, as explained before.

The wheeling flank performs these wheelings in the same gait as that at which they were previously marching, the other files progressively slower.

### § 3. WHEELING ON A MOVEABLE PIVOT.

The object of the moving pivot is gradually to gain a new direction, without losing ground or time, by the pivot advancing, and at the same time coming round to the new direction,

The guide of the wheeling flank ought in this movement to accelerate the gait of his horse, and describe an arc of a circle concentric with that described by the pivot, so as neither to open or close the files, the horsemen in the centre of each rank should perform the wheeling in the same gait which they were marching in before; while those towards the pivot will gradually diminish their speed, and those towards the wheeling flank will gradually increase their speed so as to keep places with the centre during the wheel, and preserve their dressing and compactness.

At the end of the wheeling on a moveable pivot, each rank will resume the gait at which it had previously marched, and bring their horses straight into the ranks.

In these wheelings, the pressure from the leading or pivot flank of the troop ought always to be yielded to, and that from the wheeling flank resisted.

In all wheelings, to preserve the line with more security, the sub-officers are to dress on the wheeling wing without paying attention to the individual alinement; the horsemen in rank attend to their dressing.

#### § 4. WHEELING IN RANKS OF PLATOON.

This drill of wheeling will be commenced by half troops or platoons in open files, and a sub-officer or intelligent horseman will be placed on each flank as guides of movement; then command:

*Attention.*

*Take care to wheel by ranks of platoons.*

*Front rank....by the right....wheel.*

*March.*

At the command *right*, the horsemen turn their eyes towards the side of the wheeling flank, the sub-officer, as guide, conducting it, will march off in a wheel, measuring with the eye the extent of the portion of a circle which each is to describe, in order to prevent opening or closing the files. *Plate XXX. fig. 1.*

The wheeling will be continued until the command *left dress...halt*; at which the men will halt, dress, and look to the front.

When the rank has wheeled several times in a walk, they will perform the wheelings in a trot, it being uniformly observed that the horses move off quick when the wheeling in a trot is commenced; after several wheelings in a trot, the walk will be resumed.

The same movements will be performed to the left as have been prescribed to the right, according to the same principles. *Plate XXX. fig. 2.*



The files will then be closed (*fig. 4*) and opened, and closing the files by wheeling in a walk, by the commands and rules prescribed in § 7, *chap. VIII.* will be practised. *Plate XXVII. figs. 3, 4.*

#### § 5. WHEELING BY PLATOONS.

The two ranks of the platoon will be united and made to wheel in the same manner as the single ranks, commencing by wheeling in open files.

As the troop acquires more adroitness and composure in wheeling in a walk and trot, the files will be closed as performed in the wheeling by platoons; as is more particularly detailed in the drill of horsemen. *Plate XXI. figs. 1, 2.*

The ranks will be opened and closed as has been pointed out.

The horseman being thus accustomed to the movements of wheeling, will be made, while the platoon is in the march, to perform the wheeling on a fixed and moving point, in a walk and trot.

Wheeling on a fixed pivot, the platoon being in motion.

The officer will command:

*Attention.*

*Platoon....to the right (or left) wheel.*

*March.*

*Forward.*

At the command *wheel*, the flank file serving as a pivot halts; that which is to move executes the wheeling.

At the word *forward*, the pivot resumes the march, and the two flanks resume the march at the same time, and in the same gait.

#### § 6. WHEELING ON A MOVING PIVOT IN MOTION.

The troops being in column and marching, command:

*Attention.*

*Squadron....right....wheel.*

*Forward....march.*

At the command *wheel*, the pivot will prepare to slacken his gait, and the wheeling flank accelerates his, the pivot describes an arc of a circle of fifteen yards, in the same time that the wheeling flank performs the wheel.

At the command *forward*, the pivot and wheeling flank prepare to resume their march, at the gait in which they moved previous to the wheel.

The same movements will be repeated on the left by the command *to the left*.

Each horseman ought to bring his horse straight, at the first part of the third command, so as to march straight forward at the word *forward*.

Before the horsemen have been accustomed to wheel in a gallop, care will be taken not to give the command *to the right wheel*, or *to the left wheel*, when they are in a walk, so that the wheeling flank, which is to quicken its gait, will trot.

#### § 7. WHEELING BY SQUADRON.

The platoons are now united in squadron, and the guides of evolution on the flanks of platoons, will be directed to execute movements by wheeling, analogous to the exercise of the direct movement from the flanks of platoons, *plate XXI. figs. 1, 2.* That is the guides of the flanks of platoons will move in such a circle as they would describe if the whole platoons moved with them; but the object being to obtain accuracy, only one or two files will execute the first movements. And when the guides and the files they have led, shall have arrived at the required points, the ranks of the platoons will move into the spaces which are marked by the guides.

When the squadron moves altogether upon one front, and with a moving pivot, that pivot will describe an arc of about eighteen paces; and the wheeling flank will encrease its arc of the circle in proportion.

#### § 8. WHEELING IN THE GALLOP.

The squadron being exercised in wheeling in a walk and trot, will be made to perform wheelings in a gallop, beginning by wheeling in platoons, after changing gait and not galloping long in the same direction.

To change the wheeling flank without halting, the platoon wheeling to the right, command will be given to wheel to the left, the right wing then advances and the left becomes the pivot, all the horsemen re-dress their horses and direct them so as to wheel in a contrary direction.

When the platoon performs this movement well in a walk it will be made to repeat it in a trot, but never in a gallop.

The platoons being well trained to all kinds of wheeling in gallop, they will be united and made to perform by squadron all the movements that have been detailed.

Wheelings in gallop by squadron, and the changing the wheeling without halting, require intelligence and attention from the guides on the flanks, it is by measuring well their arcs and the celerity of their pace, that they attain to a correct performance of these movements.

The guide placed on the wheeling flank ought constantly to keep an eye on the squadron collectively, if he perceives that the horsemen are too close he will give them more room, but

always advancing ; if too open, he will insensibly incline to the pivot.

In no case is the pivot in wheeling to go back, even to repair a fault committed by the horsemen of the centre, the inconvenience of this, which in a single troop is not felt, would have the most disagreeable consequences, because in a column it would prevent the troop following from having its distance, and being in a situation to form line.

The following diagrams, which exhibit the same principles as the movements of infantry, present the distinction between the line of movement in wheeling and movement in the oblique order. *Fig. 1*, shows the arcs over which each of the files travel in a wheel. *Fig. 2*, the line of direction in an oblique movement.

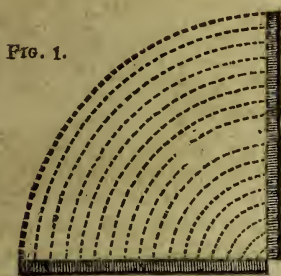


FIG. 1.

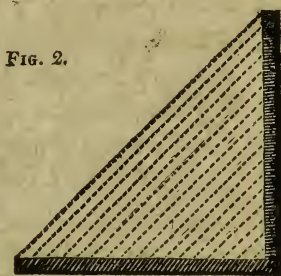


FIG. 2.

#### § 9. OF THE OBLIQUE MARCH, OR LINE OF SCIENCE.

The oblique march is performed by a quarter facing of each horseman, without changing the line of front of the troop, and corresponds with the infantry quarter facing ; this exercise will commence with column of platoons, the officer commanding :

*Attention.*

*The platoons will take care to take ground to the right by an oblique movement, without changing the alignment of the front.*

*Files....right quarter face....forward....march.*

At the command *files*, the horsemen will shorten the right rein and prepare the horse ; at the word *quarter face*, turn their horses so that the head of each horse shall be even with the breast or the chest of the horse on his right ; and the right knee of each horseman be behind the left thigh of the horseman on the right, or side obliqued to. *Plate XXX. fig. 3. Plate XIX. first drills.*



In all parts of the oblique march, every time the horsemen are separated from each other, they ought insensibly to augment their gait, in order to approach the side obliqued to.

If too close, or more advanced than the side of the wing obliqued to, they must insensibly slacken their pace. All these movements will be performed by gaining more ground in front than on the side.

Whatever be the space the sub-officers of the wing obliqued to have to go over, they ought never more than quarter face.

It is essential that they then march straight forward in the line of direction to which each horse is faced; when the gait is accelerated, care should be taken not to move off with precipitation, but gradually.

After having for some time obliqued to the right, at the command *forward*, the horsemen will resume their former position, by the words:

*Attention.*

*Take care to resume former front.*

*Left quarter face....forward....march.*

The horsemen which have opened the march, will quicken the gait a little, in order that the platoons may be sooner at the direction.

The same movement will be repeated to the left, and performed on the same principles as those detailed for the oblique to the right.

#### § 10. MARCHING TO A FLANK.

Flank marches will at first be performed by sections of four, as in *plate XXIII. figs. 1, 2, 3*; when the route admits of a larger front than sections of four; the movement will be executed by sections of four from each rank; or ranks of four, giving eight in front; next by platoons, and then by troops and squadrons; each platoon being separately in line, if the movement commences from the right of the line, and to the right by wheeling into column by sections of four of each rank, so that when wheeled, the front of the column shall present two sections of four, or eight files in front.

*Attention.*

*Ranks of four....right wheel.*

*March.*

At the command *wheel*, the horsemen wheel to the right by fours, that is four men of each rank; the officer commanding each platoon will march at one pace on the right flank, in a line with the front rank of his platoon, and they present the position in the shaded part of *fig. 1, plate XXXI.*

The platoon officer of the right wing of the squadron will march one pace in front of the four first files of the front rank, and the guide of the right in front of the four first files of the second rank; the other officers and guides of platoon take their places on the flanks of their respective platoons.

The movement by ranks of four being nearly completed the officer will command :

*Left dress....forward....march.*

At the command all the horsemen will advance, closing to their proper distance, that there may be no opening in the platoon when formed.

After marching to the point where it is proposed to commence the flank march, command :

*Attention.*

*By ranks of four....left wheel.*

*Forward....march....dress.*

At the command *wheel...forward*, all the horsemen of the platoon, will, at the same time, turn to the left of ranks of fours.

At the command *march*, all the horsemen will march at the same time forward, touching the boot of the file on the right; and having marched are dressed by the left and halted.

These movements will be performed according to the same principles as a flank march to the right: and will be successfully executed in a walk and trot.

The horsemen during the march will cover their file leaders at a half horse length distance, performing correctly the breaking off and performing the necessary march.

The ranks having been told off by fours before mounting, the horsemen will no more be counted, and if one of the ranks should be reduced from four to three, the broken rank will perform its movement in the same manner as if the file was complete.

The flank march by files being only used in counter marches an explanation thereof will be given at the article describing that movement. *Chap. XI. § 2, plate XLI.*

## CHAPTER X.

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*EVOLUTIONS.*

## § 1. OF THE COLUMN.

**T**HERE are three kinds of columns :

- 1st. The open column.
- 2d. The close column.
- 3d. The column of route.

## THE OPEN COLUMN.

The object of the open column is, that in conducting any portion of troops from one position to another, they may always be prepared to form line in any direction, with the utmost promptitude and order; to accomplish this object the depth should be equal to its front, or somewhat less; for as the depth of the troop in the order of two ranks, with the interval of close order, is about equal to the front of eight files, the wheeling by ranks of four, into column, will place the column on ground equal in depth to its front in squadron, being the most convenient for all movements.

When the commanding officer judges it more advisable to march by sections of a larger front, as eight, twelve, or sixteen, he will give the necessary command, specifying the number of files, always taking care that the numbers be even, and that the distance of sections in column, in the movements, be equal to the length of the front.

If unforeseen obstacles oblige a column in open order, marching by platoons, to diminish its front, it will be made to file off by double files; but as soon as the ground will permit, the column will again resume the order of double sections of four.

The officers commanding the platoons will repeat the commands *march* and *halt*, given by the officer of their squadron.

When marching by such sections as are proportioned to the established number of officers, each part of the troop will be commanded by the subaltern attached to it, who alone shall repeat the commands *march* and *halt*, given by the commandant of the squadron.

Whenever a column marches by platoons, the guides will preserve between themselves and the preceding guide, a dis-



tance equal to the front of their platoon ; regulating their gait and direction by the same guide of movement.

To preserve the proper distances between the platoons is one of the most essential objects in all kinds of movements of the column ; all other principles are subordinate to this ; the guides, therefore, will avoid, as much as possible, changing gait, without a special command. But if it should happen that their distance be augmented or diminished too much, they shall repair this error gradually, without any sudden or hasty movement.

The commanders of platoons will constantly attend to the preservation of the distance, which ought to be equal to the front of the section, measuring from the croups of the horses of the front section to the heads of the next section following.

When obstacles on the ground render it impossible to preserve the march in open column by the direction of the guides, it will then be sufficient to make the guide of each platoon pass the same point that the preceding one has closed.

The first troop of a column that marches forward, at whatever gait, will always moderate its movements in order to give time to the column to take up the same gait, and to observe from front to rear an equal, uniform, and regular movement.

When marching by sections of two, the flank file of each rank will conform to all that has been said, as to the duty of guides, except that they only preserve about a yard distance from each other.

When, in open column, the changes of direction require successive wheelings, these wheelings will be performed on a moving pivot, so that the column may not be retarded in its march. The arc of a circle described by the pivot of any small section ought to be five yards. When breaking off by sections of four or two, the pivots perform the successive wheelings without slackening their gait.

#### THE CLOSE COLUMN.

The close column having for its object the compactness of the body of the troops, and the diminution of the depth, to conceal the number of troops of which it is composed ; the close column, therefore, should always be formed by troops or squadrons.

#### THE COLUMN OF ROUTE.

The column of route has for its object the conveniency of the march ; it will be formed by sections of four more frequently than by sections of two, in order to gain time and not to be obliged to file off, and to be enabled to choose the best part of the road for the horses.

## § 2. FORMATION IN OPEN COLUMN.

The squadron being in line, to break it up in column to the right, command :

*Attention.*

*Platoon....to the right wheel.*

*March.*

At the second command the sub-officers of the left wing of each platoon are to prepare to wheel. *Plate XXXIII. fig. 1.*

At the command *march*, the wheeling will be performed, and when nearly finished, the commanders of platoons will command *halt, to the left dress*. When the horsemen are dressed in line, their officers will command *front*, and place themselves at the centre of their platoons.

The platoons having finished their wheeling, the leaders will not put themselves in the direction of those preceding them until the column is in march.

The same principles will be observed when breaking off on the right by troops or sections.

## § 3. TO MARCH, THE RIGHT IN FRONT.

The officer will command :

*Attention.*

*Column....dress....forward.*

*March.*

The movement of passing defile by 2, 4, 8, 12, or 16, may be here executed conformably to preceding drills ; by posting guides at points of wheeling, augmenting or diminishing front.

The same movement will be performed by all those of the first platoon, in succession, as they arrive at the position of the guide or sub-officer, near whom the first have filed off.

All the other platoons will perform the same movements in the same manner and at the same point on which the first executed the movement.

When the column has arrived at the position of the third guide or sub-officer, the commandant of the first platoon will command :

*Attention.*

*By single files.*

*Forward...march.*

At the word *forward*, the front rank file on the right of the column will continue marching, followed by those on the left in succession, the file coverers following their leaders, and who will enter the column by an oblique movement to the right, resuming their primitive order ; the same movement will be performed by

every file of the first platoon, as they arrive at the station of the guide upon whom they first filed off.

All the other platoons will perform the same movement in the same manner and at the same place as the first.

When the officer commanding the first platoon perceives that the first horsemen have passed the defile, he will command :

*Attention.*

*By sections of two.*

*Forward....march.*

The two men of the front rank advance first, the two men of the rear rank follow them ; and so in succession.

The same is to be observed after passing the defile in sections of two, when they will augment the front to sections of four ; and when they gain sufficient ground to form platoons, the commandants of the other platoons will perform the same movements and successively conforming to what has been prescribed in the first drills, *Plates XI. XII.* All these movements of doubling and filing off more particularly to be performed in a walk, gradually as the troops improve in the walk, to perform that same movement in the trot ; and then the gallop where the presence of the enemy is to be supposed and the greatest celerity of movement is necessary.

When the first platoon has passed the defile and is formed in perfect order, it will slacken its pace, or halt ; for it must be a rule not to separate out of forming distance ; and the platoons following should have time to arrive at their proper positions.

#### § 4. WHEELING ABOUT BY PLATOON.

The squadron marching in column by platoon the right in front, to change the front by wheeling about to the right, command :

*Attention.*

*Platoon....right about....wheel.*

*March.*

At the word *right about*, the flank men of each platoon, serving as a pivot in the wheeling, will prepare to halt, without, however, slackening the gait. *Plate XXXIII. fig. 2.*

At the command *march*, repeated by the commanders of platoons, the pivot will halt, while the left or reverse flank will wheel in the same gait the column marched in ; all regulating themselves by the front, or leading platoon, in order to arrive at the same time in their place. At the end of the first quarter of the wheeling they will regulate themselves on the wheeling flank of the platoon, which will be the point of the column after the wheeling about is completed.

The second quarter wheel being nearly accomplished, the commandant of the squadron will command ;



*Forward....right dress.*

Which will be repeated by all the commanders of platoons, and the movement performed as prescribed for wheeling on a fixed pivot. *Chap. VII. page 100.*

The squadron marching with the left in front will be made to break off from platoon into sections of four, two, and single files ; and to resume their formation in platoon according to the principles prescribed for firing off and forming ; in this evolution, the fours, and twos, commence on the left flank of the platoon, the rear rank always following their file leader ; and so in single files, the rear man of each file follows his front rank man.

The squadron marching in column by platoons, the left in front, to change front by wheeling about by the right of platoons, command :

*Attention.*

*Platoon....right about....wheel.*

*March.*

This movement is performed by the rules above laid down.

#### § 4. TO HALT THE COLUMN.

*Attention.*

*Column.*

*Halt.*

At the second command all the horsemen will prepare to halt.

At that of *halt*, each commander of platoon will command *attention*, and will command :

*Left dress....front....halt.*

After the command *halt*, there must be no movement in the platoons, even for rectifying the distance or dressings.

The commandant of the squadron after having commanded *halt*, will place himself behind the leader of the second platoon to see if the two guides have marched correctly towards the point of direction.

#### § 5. TO FORM FRONT TO THE LEFT.

The squadron being in column, the right in front, to form in line to the left by the wheel of platoons.

The column being halted, command : *Plate XXXIII. fig. 3.*

*Attention.*

*Column....to the left form line.*

*Platoons....left wheel.*

*March.*

At the command to the *left form line*, the guide of the right flank will place himself in the direction of the sub-officers leaders

of column the breadth of a platoon distant from the front, facing to the side on which the line is to be formed.

At the command *wheel*, repeated by all the commanders of platoon, the squadron will form line, the sub-officer of each platoon on the left flank serving as the pivot, wheeling on him.

Each commander of platoon will command, the instant the wheeling flank of his platoon is near its position, *right dress....halt*. During the wheeling the guide of the left flank will resume his place in line; the movement finished the commandant of the squadron will command:

*Front....dress,*

The commandant of the squadron ought, after having commanded *to the left....form line*, be assured the guide of the right wing is exactly in the direction of the sub-officers leaders of the column, before he commands *march*; immediately after having given the last command, he will quickly go to the right wing of his squadron, to see if the pivots have performed their movements well, and if the horsemen dress correctly after the wheeling.

#### § 6. TO FORM FRONT TO THE RIGHT.

If the squadron is in column, the left in front, and it is required to form in line to the right, the column being halted, command:

*Attention.*

*Column....right form line.*

*Platoon....right....wheel....dress.*

*March.*

At the word *right*, the guide on the advanced platoon who is not counted in the ranks, will advance in the direction of the new line the breadth of a platoon distant from the front, facing to the side on which the line is to be formed. *Plate XXXIII. fig. 4.*

The commandant of the squadron ought, after having commanded *form line*, to rectify the position of the leaders, and examine if the guide of the advanced wing is exactly in his direction before the command *march* is given.

At the word *march*, repeated by all the commanders of platoon, the squadron will form line, the sub-officers on the right of each platoon serving as pivots, turning on themselves, each commander of platoon will command *dress, halt*, the moment the wheeling flank of his platoon is near its position.

The movement finished, he commands *front*.

All rectifications ought as much as possible to be made without speaking, by signs only; but if it becomes necessary to inform a man of the place he is to occupy, it will be done in a low voice.

The different attentions recommended above to the commandant of the squadron, ought to make him repeat the commands

*halt, on the left or on the right form line, march*, which ought to succeed each other as rapidly as possible.

The guide of evolution placed in a line with the leaders will observe rather to take too much than too little ground; the conductor of the wheeling of the first platoon ought only to regulate himself on the guide of alignment without approaching him.

#### § 7. BREAKING OFF BY PLATOONS FROM THE LEFT.

The squadron being in line, to break off by platoons from the left, command:

*Attention.*

*Left platoon....left wheel.*

*March.*

At the end of the wheeling, the commanders of platoon will command *right dress ...halt...front.*

Being now in column of platoons, the left in front, the squadron will be made to march by the same principles that have been prescribed for marching the right in front.

#### § 8. IN COLUMN, LEFT IN FRONT, TO FORM LINE ON THE FRONT

The squadron marching in column of platoons, the left in front, to form line on the right of the front platoon.

The column will be halted by the same commands as prescribed when marching the right in front. Then command:

*Attention.*

*Leading platoon....halt.*

*Second platoon....right....quarter wheel.*

*Forward....left quarter wheel.*

*March.*

At the second command, the guide on the left wing will place himself in the alignment of the sub-officers, leaders of column. The wheelings finished, the commanders of platoon will command *left dress....halt.* During the wheeling, the guide of the right platoon will resume his place on the right of the line.

The dressing being finished, the commandant of the squadron will command *front*

#### § 9. FORMING FRONT ON THE REVERSE FLANK.

The squadron being again moved into column and the left in front, to form line on the reverse flank from the leading platoon, command:

*Attention.*

*By platoons on the left...form line.*

*Platoon....left wheel.*

*Forward....march.*



The advanced platoon is wheeled to the left, and the succeeding platoons marched up in its rear and wheeled into line successively on the right of the advanced platoon.

All these movements will be commanded in a walk and repeated in trot. If the column has been formed by half platoons or sections, the line will be formed in the same manner.

When marching in column by platoons, and desirous, without halting the column and by a general movement, to wheel one of the flanks to continue the march, command *platoon...by the right, or left, wheel...march ...dress. .forward.*

#### § 10. BREAKING OFF ON THE RIGHT AND MOVING TO THE LEFT

To break up on the right and to march towards the left by platoons, the commandant of squadron commands:

*Attention.*

*The squadron will move by platoons in front to the left.*

*Right platoon....forward....left wheel.*

*March.*

At the word *right platoon*, the officer of the first platoon commands *...platoon. forward...march...right dress ...left wheel...march.* Plate XXV. fig. 2.

The first platoon will march forward ten paces, then wheel to the left, at the command of its commander, marching forward.

The other commanders of platoon will successively make their platoons perform what has been prescribed for the first, giving their officers sufficient time to take their proper distance in column.

#### § 11. TO CHANGE GAIT IN MARCHING IN COLUMN.

The column will be made successively to pass from walk to trot and from trot to walk.

The commandant of the squadron will take care that all the platoons of the column halt, march, and change gait, at the same time, and if they fail to do so, contrary to the instructions in detail, he will halt the troop, to explain what has not been well understood, and repeat the movements until they are well performed.

When the platoons have acquired a uniformity in marching in column, the last platoon may be ordered to slacken its gait for some paces, only in order to instruct them how to remedy sudden movements, which take place sometimes in large columns; the more firmly to establish them in the given principles, the same thing will be performed by the third platoon, which will oblige the fourth to do the same, and after having rendered the inconvenience resulting from this irregularity of gait sensible, the platoons which have slackened will resume their distance; this method is successively to be followed for all the platoons of the column.

The gait in front of the column may also be insensibly augmented or diminished without command, in order to form a judgment of the attention of the leaders, and to habituate them to look forward, to follow the different changes of gait which the platoons before them take.

The front of the column ought not too quickly to repeat those changes ; seldom making use thereof in the beginning, and insensibly increasing them as the squadron becomes more habituated thereto.

## CHAPTER XI.

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*EVOLUTIONS.*

## § 1. CHANGE OF DIRECTION.

To change direction by successive wheelings, command  
*Attention.*

*The column will change direction to the right.*

*Right wheel....march.*

The commandant of the first platoon will command :

*Platoon....right wheel.*

*Forward....march.*

Each commander of platoon will successively give the same commands to his platoon as it arrives at the point where the first has wheeled.

These movements will be performed according to the principles above laid down, *Plate XXXIV. fig. 1.*

In change of direction the sub-officer file closer of the platoon in front of the column, as soon as the commander of the platoon commands to the *right* or *left wheel*, will place himself on the pivot flank, fronting with the platoon as it wheels; all the other platoons ought to wheel two paces before arriving at the position of this sub-officer, the commandants of platoon will in consequence take care to give their command immediately, which will prevent the column from being thrown out from the pivot. The major or adjutant at the head of the column will place these sub-officers.

At the moment of changing direction the commandant of the squadron will point out a new direction to the sub officer, leader of the first platoon, pointing it out at the same time to the leader of the second platoon.

The exact observation of distances after the change of direction depends on the regularity the different platoons of the column observe, in increasing the gait progressively to the wheeling flank; it is therefore important that the first troop of the column wheel neither too quickly nor too slowly, and that each platoon regulates its celerity in wheeling exactly by the one preceding it.

The commandant of the squadron will then command :

*The column will change its direction to the left.*

*By platoons....in column....left wheel....march.*

The commander of the first platoon will then command :



*Platoon....left wheel.*

*Forward....march.*

These movements are performed on the same principles.

If after having broken up on the right or left, when stationary, the column is to be directed towards a point on its right or left, it is to be made change direction by the commands and according to the same principles which have just been detailed.

The first platoon of the column will then wheel on a moving pivot, all the other platoons march forwards and wheel upon the same ground precisely upon which the first wheeled.

## § 2. FORMING FRONT TO THE RIGHT OF THE COLUMN.

The squadron marching in order of column by platoons, the right in front, to form it in line on its flank in the natural order :

The commandant of the squadron will designate on the right flank, and twenty paces from the column, by two sub-officers as guides, facing each other, and having a space equal to the front of a squadron, the alignment on which he wishes the squadron to form ; a third sub-officer guide will be placed at an intermediate point facing the one on the right, at the point where the left of the first platoon will be when wheeled into the alignment ; he will then command :

*Attention.*

*The column will form line on the left of the leading platoon]*

*First platoon....right wheel....halt.*

The commandant of the squadron will give the command *attention*, when the right of the first platoon has arrived within two paces of the point where the sub-officer of the right is stationed, the commander of the first platoon will command :

*Right....wheel.*

*Forward....march.*

*Dress....halt.*

All the other commanders of platoons will command:

*Right....dress.*

The first platoon will wheel and advance on the alignment of the guide of alignment, so that the sub-officer marking the alignment, shall have the head of his horse touching the boot of the flank man of the front rank, by whom the platoon will dress correctly, the commandant of the squadron placing himself on the right to attend thereto.

Each of the other platoons will wheel to the right in the same manner as the first, commencing the wheel as the sub-officer of the right wing of the platoon arrives within two paces of the sub-officer of the left wing of the platoon on its right, which has

wheeled into line ; the wheeling finished, it will advance and dress. All these movements will be performed at the command of the commander of each platoon.

The horsemen ought to be observed when forming to the right in line not to incline to the new line.

When this movement is performed in trot, the pivot of each platoon ought to describe an arc sufficiently lengthened, so that the wheeling flank may increase its gait, and not interrupt the rest of the column in its march.

If the column is marching in gallop, the wheeling flank cannot double its gait, but will accelerate it as much as possible.

### § 3. BREAKING FROM THE LEFT AND MOVING TO THE RIGHT.

To break upon the left and march to the right, command :

*Attention.*

*The squadron will form column of platoons from the left and move by the right.*

*Left platoon....forward....right wheel.*

At the word *left platoon*, the commander of the left platoon will command :

*Platoon....forward.*

*Right....dress.*

At the command *forward*, which he will repeat, the left platoon will advance ten paces, wheel to the right at the command of its commander, and march forward.

The other commanders of platoon will conform to what is prescribed when breaking off on the right.

With the left in front the marches in column and the several changes of direction which have just been detailed for the right in front, will be performed on the same principles.

### § 4. TO RESUME THE ORIGINAL FRONT ON THE LEADING PLATOON.

The squadron marching in column by platoons, the left in front, to form line on the left platoon in the natural order :

After having placed three sub-officer guides, as has been prescribed in the movement to form line to the right, command: *Plate XXXVI. fig. 1.*

*Attention.*

*Take care to form line on the right of the leading platoon.*

*Leading platoon....dress....halt.*

*Platoons....right quarter wheel.*

*Forward....march.*

## § 5. MOVING BY THE REAR TO THE LEFT.

*Attention.**Take care to move to the rear and left in column of platoons from the right.**March.*

This movement is described in *plate XXXV. fig. 3.* On the word *march* from the commanding officer, the commander of the first platoon will give the word :

*Right platoon....about wheel.**Dress....forward....march.*

And each platoon officer will follow with the same commands, moving their platoons when the right flank of the platoon moving in the rear is on a line with the left of the standing platoon.

## § 6. TO FORM LINE TO THE FRONT.

The squadrons being in column of platoons, right in front, to form line to the front.

Having placed two sub-officers, guides on an alignment, facing each other, at the distance of the front of a squadron apart, one of them being fixed on the point at which the right of the squadron is required to form in line and a third as an intermediate point where the left of the first platoon will be required to form in line, the command will be given :

*Attention.**Platoons....front....form line.**March.*

At the word *front*, the officers of the first platoon will command :

*Platoon....forward.**March.*

The commanders of the other platoons will command :

*Platoons....left....quarter wheel.**Forward....march.*

At the command *march*, repeated by the commanders of platoons, the first platoon will march twenty paces forward, halt, and dress to the right, under the command of its immediate officer ; each of the other platoons, after the quarter wheeling to the left, advance under their respective officers, when the right files of the advancing platoon covers the left file of the platoon on its right, the officer will command :

*Right....quarter wheel....dress....halt.*



## § 7. FORMING FRONT IN THE REVERSE ORDER.

The squadrons being in column of platoons, the right in front, to form line, front reversed. The sub-officer guides being posted in the required alignment, the command is given:

*Attention.*

*The squadron will change front by platoon, and form line, faced to the rear.*

*To the rear....form line....march.*

At the word *march*, the officer of the first platoon commands:  
*Plate XXXV. fig. 2.*

*Platoon forward....*

*Left about....wheel....dress....halt.*

The officers of the other platoons, successively command:

*Platoon....right half wheel....forward.*

*Left half wheel....dress.*

*Left about, wheel....dress....halt.*

At the command *march* repeated by the officers of platoons, the first platoon will advance twenty paces and halt, all the others will quarter wheel to the right and advance, placing themselves successively in line on the right of the first platoon, by quarter wheeling on the left. These movements to be performed at the direction of each commander of platoon. The squadron being formed, the commandant will command *halt*.

## § 8. FORMING LINE FACED TO THE REAR.

The squadron being in column of platoons, the left in front, and it is required to form line faced to the rear, command:

*Attention.*

*Platoons upon the left of the leading platoon change front.*

*Rear form line....march.*

*Platoons....forward.*

*Right wheel....right wheel....dress....halt.*

In these evolutions, the movement into line upon the left of the leading platoon is performed on the same principles as the movement in the preceding section, as far as forming line from the column; but the moving by platoons to the rear and twice wheeling brings them into line.

## § 9. WHEELING ABOUT BY FOURS IN EVOLUTION.

The squadron being in line and in motion, to make it wheel about to the right or left by fours, command:

*Attention.*

*Ranks of four....right wheel.*

*Forward....dress.*

At the word *four*, prepare the horse....*wheel*, all the ranks of four of the squadron wheel to the right (or left); the horsemen as pivots in the wheeling will not move from their own ground, but turning the haunches of their horses to the left if wheeling to the right, and to the right if wheeling to the left. In order to facilitate the formation, the wheeling flank of each four will perform the movement in the same gait. *Plate XXXII. fig. 2.*

At the word *dress*, they will touch the boot on the side of the guide.

At the word *forward*, all the horsemen of the squadron will advance straight forward.

The commandant of the squadron will give the command *forward*, *march*, before the wheeling is finished, and that of *dress*, the moment it is terminated.

After having marched thus for some time to the rear, command :

*Attention.*

*Ranks of four....to the left about wheel.*

*Forward....march....dress....halt.*

These wheelings to the right and left will be often repeated and performed in the same gait in which the squadron was previously marching, except when galloping; they will be performed in a walk when the squadron is previously halted.

If the squadron is to be halted, command immediately after the wheeling, *halt*, *to the right (or left) dress*, and *front face*.

#### § 10. RETIRING BY THE WHEELING ABOUT OF PLATOONS.

When the squadron is in line and marching, and it is required to retire in a direction opposite to the actual movement, and to execute it by the wheeling of platoons, command :

*Attention.*

*Platoons to the right (or left) about....wheel.*

*Forward....march.*

*Right dress.*

At the word *right about*, the platoons will commence their wheeling, the horsemen of the second rank placing the haunches of their horses properly, the wheeling flanks will not move too briskly.

At the command *forward*, the squadron will resume the direct march. *Plate XXXII. fig. 3.*

After having marched for some time to the rear, the same commands will be given to resume the former front and direction; when to the left, the same rules will be observed as has been explained for wheeling about to the right, but by reverse movements.

These movements will be performed from the halt, then when marching in walk and trot.

In these movements, the pivots require to be very correctly instructed men, and steady; the horsemen of the second rank will place the haunches of their horses properly, and the flank guides who are not in the sections of the squadron will face to the right or left about on their own ground without leaving their positions, notwithstanding the change of front; they will dress by the rank actually in front.

The wheeling flanks ought to break off and form with precision, always slackening their gait a little before the end of the wheeling, in order that the formation of all may be at the same time.

The commandant of the squadron will give the first part of the command, *forward*, a little before the end of the wheeling, in order to prepare the pivot at the second part to resume the preceding gait.

The officers of the squadron ought then to place themselves in front, without however immediately taking too quick a gait.

#### § 11. BREAKING INTO PLATOONS SIMULTANEOUSLY AND ADVANCING IN COLUMN.

The squadron marching to the front, command:

*Attention.*

*By platoons....upon the right....advance in column.*

At the word *platoons*, the officer of the first platoon commands:

*Platoon....forward....march....left dress.*

The commandants of the three other platoons will command *platoon to the right half wheel, forward, march.* Plate XXXVII. fig. 1

At the command *march*, the first platoon will advance all the other platoons, will move at the same instant, and as they come up with the left file of the leading platoon, half wheel to the left, advance and take the direction of the first platoon.

To form line from the column upon the same principle, by a half wheel to the left. Plate XL.

#### § 12. TO CHANGE THE DIRECTION OF THE COLUMN UPON A HALTED PLATOON.

The first platoon being placed in the direction required, by wheeling to the left in the direction to be taken, the remaining platoons will be wheeled by fours to the right, and in succession to the left about and rear of the standing platoon, command:

*Attention.*

*The column will take a new direction to the left.*

*First platoon....left wheel....halt.*

*Upon the leading platoon form column.*



At the command *leading platoon*, the commandants of the three rear platoons are to command: *Plate XXXVII. fig. 2.*

*Rear platoons....ranks of four....right wheel.*

*Into column....left about wheel....dress....halt.*

At the command *form column*, the officer of each platoon will give the word *ranks of four right wheel*, and perform the movement; which being completed, they will give the word *into column, left about wheel*, and advance at the command *forward*.

During the movements, the commander of each platoon will place himself on the right of the man of the first rank of his platoon; a guide will take post on the left of the same rank, who will take the direction of the successive wheelings and forming to the rear.

The guide of the flank will halt in the line of the guides on the posted platoon, letting the platoon extend with the officer on its right. When the command, *to the left about wheel*, is given, the direction of the standing platoon is followed when the movement is finished, after which *front, dress*, will be commanded. Each platoon ought during the movement to keep its distance to the left.

The same movement may be repeated in a contrary direction by corresponding commands.

#### OBSERVATIONS.

The guides must always be detached, and not form any part of a section or platoon. When the line is formed, or the halting and dressing completed, the guides may either fall in on the right of troops or squadrons, in a line with the front rank; or take a position in the supernumerary rank; or, if vacant, act as cover files, until their duties as guides are again required. Guides of the right, always face towards the left; guides of the left face to the right.

## CHAPTER XII.

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*SQUADRON EVOLUTIONS.*

§ 1. TO TAKE GROUND TO A FLANK IN COLUMN OF PLATOONS OR TROOPS, WITHOUT ALTERING THE DISPOSITION OF THE COLUMN.

THE squadron marching in column by platoons, the right in front, to gain ground to a flank by the line of science or oblique march, command:

*Attention.*

*By the oblique movement take ground to the right.*

*Files....right....quarter face.*

*In column....forward....march.*

At the command *quarter face*, the horsemen of each platoon will at the same time quarter face their horses to the right so that the head of each horse be placed even with the breast of the horse on the right, and the right knee of each horseman be placed behind the left knee of the horseman on his right. *Plate XXXI. fig. 2.*

The first movement performed, each horseman will, at the word *forward*, move in the new direction, keeping the order of the ranks exact.

The sub-officers on the flank of each platoon, will keep in the same direction, regulating themselves by the movement of the troop before them in order to keep their distance.

After having obliqued to the right for some time, command:

*Front....left dress.*

*Forward....march.*

At the word *front*, the horsemen will place their horses straight to the original point, and dress by the left.

At the word *forward*, they will touch the boots to the left.

These movements will be performed in a walk and trot,

When to oblique to the left, command:

*Attention.*

*Files....left....quarter face.*

*Forward....march.*

These movements are performed according to the same rules detailed for obliquing to the right in walk and trot.

### § 2. OF THE FORMATION OF THE LINE.

The column marching by platoons, the right in front, to form squadron in line, command: *Plato XL.*

*Attention.*

*Form squadron.*

*March.*

At the second command, the commandant of the second platoon, will command, *platoon forward, without changing gait*; the commanders of the other platoons will command, *platoon ....to the left, half wheel....trot.*

At the command *march*, repeated by all the commanders of platoons, the first platoon will continue to march straight forward, the three other platoons will half wheel to the left in trot, after which they will give the commands *forward....right....dress.* And as soon as the right of each platoon covers the man on the left of the platoon preceding him, the commander thereof will command, *to the front....right dress....forward....march.*

When arrived in the alignment of the first platoon the commanders of the second platoon will command, *walk... march*; resume the walk with the platoon on the right.

The same will be observed with respect to the third and fourth platoons.

After the squadron has marched some paces forward, command:

*Attention.*

*Squadron....right dress.*

*Halt....front.*

At the second command all the horsemen will dress and prepare to halt.

At the third the squadron halts, remaining steady and looking to the front.

### § 3. BREAKING FROM A FLANK TO PASS AN OBSTACLE.

The squadron marching in line meets an obstacle, which it is required to pass without deranging the order more than is unavoidable.

*Attention.*

*Take care to break off on the right.*

*First platoon....halt.*

*Forward the line....march.*



At the command *first platoon halt*, the commander of the first platoon will repeat it, and immediately after the rest of the squadron moves on he will give the word *files right quarter face....trot....march.*

When the first platoon is exactly behind its proper place in squadron, the officer will command *forward*, and resume the walk. *Plate XXXVIII.*

As soon as the first platoon is in line, the commandant of the squadron will again indicate the position for a guide to take ; ost.

The same movement will be performed by the second platoon, which places itself in column on the same principles in rear of the first platoon, obliquing to the right ; then by the third platoon, which places itself in column in rear of the fourth, obliquing to the left.

The principle of this order being that the platoons of the same troop or squadron shall double behind each other for the passage of obstacles, in order that they may not be separated ; for which purpose they will oblique either to the right or left, as the obstacle presents itself, taking their distance of platoon in reference to this general rule.

If the movements be executed in the trot, those movements of the platoons which break off will be performed in the gallop.

The commanders of platoons ought to give the different commands with rapidity, forcing a little the degree of obliquity, that the movements may be more promptly executed.

The same movement of passing the obstacle may be executed by *advancing* the flank platoon instead of halting ; the platoon in that case would be ordered to augment the pace ; quarter face files to the left, and move until in the line of direction of the direct march ; the obstacle being passed, the platoon half faced to the right and moved into a position where it may be fronted and resume its place in the line.

#### § 4. OF THE OBLIQUE MARCH BY PLATOON OR TROOP.

Command :

*Attention.*

*The squadron will take care to move to the right in the oblique order of platoons.*

*Platoons....to the right....half wheel.*

At the command *half wheel*, each platoon will perform its half wheeling to the right on a fixed pivot, according to the principles established ; the wheeling nearly finished the commander of the squadron will command : *Plate XXXIX. fig. 2.*

*Forward....march.*

*Right....dress.*

At the command *forward march*, the march of each platoon becomes direct ; during this march the sub-officer on the right

of the first platoon will march straight forward ; all the other guides will observe their distances, taking for file leader the *fourth horseman* on the reverse flank of the rear rank of the platoon preceding them, for guide.

All the officers and sub-officers will retain their positions in line ; after having for some time marched in this order, the commandant of the squadron commands :

*Attention.*

*Platoon....half wheel to the left.*

*Forward....march....dress.*

At the command *wheel*, each platoon will half wheel to the left at the same gait the squadron was marching in.

The pivots of each platoon are all to stop their horses at the same time, that the wheeling of all the platoons may finish at the same time.

The same movements will be repeated towards the left, for which purpose command, *attention platoon...to the left half wheel...forward....eyes left...platoons ...half wheel to the right... march...forward march....dress.*

The squadron will be exercised in the oblique march by troop in walk and trot, from being stationary and in marching.

#### § 5. OF THE COUNTER MARCH.

By countermarching is to be understood the reversing of the order of the march ; so that if a column marching north, be ordered to countermarch, the new direction of the march will be south ; and this will be by a flank named, or from two flanks at the same time, and in any sections named.

A countermarch is also resorted to in changing the front of a line ; which being faced to the west, is required to be faced to the east, this is a change of front by a counter march ; which may be executed in the same way from one or more flanks.

Retreats over bridges and through defiles, in presence of an enemy, are conducted by counter marching.

The command will be animated, short, distinct, and of a pitch proportioned to the extent of the troop exercised.

The squadron being in line in the double order, to change front to the rear by counter marching from the right, command : *Plate XLI.*

*Attention.*

*Take care to counter march by the right.*

Immediately the commandant of the squadron commands :

*By files....right face.*

*Forward....march.*

At the word *files*, each right file of each rank will prepare their horses; at the word *march*, the two horsemen will wheel together to the right, passing on and followed by the rest of the files in succession; the guides placing themselves in succession on the line by which the squadron is to counter march at each point where the direction is changed, and one at the point on which they are to halt. The commandant of the squadron, when they have reached the ground, will command *front, right dress, halt*. The officers in front of the squadron, as well as the officers and sub-officers, guides, will follow the movement of the horsemen, taking their places as they respectively arrive there.

The commandant of the squadron ought to make the horsemen take a direction parallel to that which the squadron occupied before, and so place them in rear at the prescribed distance; he ought to station himself on the flank to which the squadron countermarches, to attend to these two important objects.

Plate XLI. The squadron being formed with its rear on a swamp, its right extending to L, separated by a narrow neck of land, forming a defile from the rivulet M M; the order is given to move from the right flank next the defile; and to pass the defile, countermarch, and to form on the opposite side of the marsh, in the reverse order; the adjutant takes post at G. on the first wheeling point, and the lieutenants at H. I. and K. conform to the movement; the quarter masters N. and O. retain their places in the rear; and the squadron passes the defile, as ordered, by single files of ranks. As the ground is more commodious, until they reach H. who takes post there to regulate the movement, they approach it by double files of ranks. Having passed the defile, the first guide takes post on the right, to dress the line of officers, C. E. F. The officer at F. as the troops pass the defile, gives the word *fours*, and they conform to it; as they approach the posted squadron, the officer at E. gives the word *front*. The chief of squadron takes post in front at A. and the major at H. An officer or sub-officer, takes post on his left to communicate orders.

#### § 6. THE CHARGE OF THE SQUADRON.

The horsemen being instructed in the individual charge in the drill of horsemen, *plate XXII. fig. 3.* the following rules will be observed in the charge of squadron.

The squadron will be formed in line at the extremity of the ground, sword in hand.

The commandant of the squadron will order the charge by single sections or platoons in succession, commencing at the right; each platoon will be conducted by the officer commanding it, the commandant of the squadron will then advance about 300 paces in front of his squadron, having a trumpeter with him.

When each platoon has advanced 50 paces, the commander of the platoons will command *trot, march*; when 100 paces farther, he will command *gallop, march*; when 80 paces farther



the commandant of the squadron will cause the charge to be sounded, when the commander of the platoon will command *charge*; at this command the horsemen will give point with the sword, or place it in the position prescribed in the drill *chap.* VII. § 6; the same officer, when within 12 or 15 paces of the commandant of the squadron, will command:

*Attention.*

*Platoon....halt.*

At the command *attention*, the horsemen are to abate the pace to the trot, bringing the sword across the body, the point in front of the left shoulder.

At the word *platoon*, they will walk, and carry the sword upright in front of the right shoulder; at the third command, they will halt.

The platoons will successively perform the same movements.

The squadron will again be placed on the extremity of the ground. What has been said with respect to the charge by platoon will be repeated by troops; and finally, the entire squadron will then be made to charge in like manner.

It will be prescribed to the officers placed with the squadron, when the command *attention* is given, to take their stations in the centre of the front rank of the squadron, and to command *trot, gallop, charge, halt*, after the officer commanding.

The squadron will be exercised to charge twice, and even three times in succession, if the ground permit it, taking between each feint of charge the time necessary to dress the squadron.

The charge being in war a decisive movement, consequently the most important, the horsemen cannot be too much exercised therein.

Care will be taken in teaching the principles of the charge, that the files march straight, for if the horses cross one another, and the horsemen of the second rank do not exactly follow their file leaders, the drills must be repeated until the fault be corrected.

The horsemen ought not to change gait before they are commanded, nor go in full speed until the command *charge*, but even then never losing the command of their horses.

#### § 7. OF FLANKERS, AND TIRAILLEURS.

When the horsemen have been exercised in all the movements prescribed, a platoon will be taken from the squadron to exercise it as skirmishers, or tirailleurs, to cover the front or flank of the squadron.

The squadron being in a line, command:

*Attention.*

*Take care the fourth (or first platoon) to act as tirailleurs.  
Forward....march.*

At the command *march*, the platoon designated will advance ten paces, and the horsemen will dispose themselves at five or six yards apart, in two ranks as tirailleurs, to the front right and left.

They will so dispose themselves as to cover the entire front of the squadron, extending beyond the wings; the horsemen on the right of the first rank will advance sixty paces, the horseman on the right of the second rank immediately following the first will place himself on his left in the same line, and so on.

The tirailleurs, in advancing, take the left pistol, letting the sword hang by the wrist.

When the squadron advances, the march is sounded, the tirailleurs march straight forward and fire.

When a call is sounded the tirailleurs will halt, observing all the movements of the squadron and conforming thereto, if it wheel to the right (*Plate XXXIV. fig. 2.*) the tirailleurs also face to the right by files, and preserve their disposition and distance in relation to the squadron; if the squadron marches to the rear, the retreat will be sounded and the tirailleurs will retreat by alternate files, as follows:

All the tirailleurs who were of the first rank will face about by files to the left and march fifty paces in the rear, then face to the front to the right about by files. All the tirailleurs of the second rank will face about to the left by files, and place themselves fifty paces further in the rear of those already formed, and come to the right about and front, and so on as long as the squadron marches to the rear.

When the squadron resumes its natural order, a call will be sounded, the tirailleurs retire in the same order, and form themselves in their proper station in line.

When an end is to be put to the firing of the tirailleurs, the successive calls are to be sounded; when they are to retire the proper call will be sounded, at this signal the tirailleurs retire, marching in the nearest direction to resume their place in the squadron. If the commandant of the squadron wishes his tirailleurs to retire without signal of trumpet, to replace them by others, he will cause the order to be given accordingly.

In all circumstances the tirailleurs return to their places in the gallop, never using the pistol but when dispersed.

The tirailleurs will never fire but when sufficiently near the object, or when so commanded.

They will *retire* by facing about to the *left*, and to the *front* by facing about to the *right*.

When forming platoon again, they will return the pistol and carry swords.

## § 8. OF RALLYING.

To exercise the horsemen in *rallying* with facility in case of being repulsed, the squadron will be formed in line at the extremity of the ground; the charge will be sounded, at this signal the horsemen will disperse, as *tirailleurs*.

The commandant of the squadron, the pivot files of platoons, the guides, and the trumpeters, remain in the line, to preserve the formation of the squadron. When the commandant of the squadron causes the *rally* to be sounded, the horsemen will promptly rejoin their platoons and resume their places in rank.

The rallying ought to be performed without any noise or speaking by the horsemen, who should regain their places by entering them from the rear of the rank.

As soon as the commandant of the squadron has united two thirds of his squadron he will advance his squadron. The first time this movement will be performed in walk; next in trot; when assured that the horsemen perfectly know what they have to perform, and can rally without disorder, the squadron will be made to march in trot and gallop; and after having rallied, it will be made to charge.

## OBSERVATIONS.

It would conduce much to the advantage of the cavalry in their exercises, to cause a number of long flags or colors, called bannerets, to be provided and disposed in the ranks, so as to accustom the horses to have them flapped about their eyes and to see them constantly.

In skirmishing, the same rules apply to skirmishers mounted, as to riflemen on foot; they should not remain stationary an instant, and when wheeling to move to the front, the wheel should be by the right; wheeling to retire, by the left; the same rule applies to horse artillery.



## CHAPTER XIII.

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### § 1. GENERAL RULES AND PRINCIPLES.

COMMANDS should be given with animation, brevity, and clearness of voice, pitched in proportion to the extent of the front of the corps exercised.

All the commands of direction or preparation which by their length would be difficult to pronounce distinctly, should be divided into two or three short sentences, pronouncing with more emphasis and in a deeper voice, the most significant words, and preserving the strength of the tone of voice uniformly on the last syllable of every command, lengthening the sound of such final words as *forward*, *march*, and *halt*.

The commands of precaution and those of preparation should be repeated by all the superior officers of squadrons.

When the performance of an evolution requires it, the commandant of a regiment will give the word for his regiment; commandants of squadrons, for squadrons; or, when either command a distinct movement, each of the superior officers will give the original command for that particular movement, in place of repeating a general command.

The commandants of squadron ought also to repeat the preparatory commands, when a line or column is to move at the same instant. In the case of successive movements, they should repeat those only which particularly relate to their respective squadrons; and in this case, all the commanders of troops should give those which the performance of the evolution requires.

All the commands of direction, or execution, should be repeated by the superior officers and commandants of squadron; the commanders of troops or platoons will not repeat the commands of performance, unless the squadron be broken into troops or platoons; or when the troops shall be very complete, and each troop may act as a squadron; they will, in such cases, repeat.

When in line, a preparatory command being given, to break off successively by platoons or half platoons, the officers of each section, into which the line is broken, will repeat those commands which relate specially to each.

Every time that a line which has been stationary is to be broken up and formed into column, the movements should be performed by platoons or half troops.

When a commandant does not direct any particular gait in which the manœuvre is to be performed, it will be uniformly understood that it is to be executed in a walk; if the troops be halted, while on a march, the movement will be renewed in the

same gait as the previous march, unless it shall be otherwise ordered.

If a command should not be heard by the commandant of any troop or squadron, he will observe the movements of the squadron in advance, and conform to them quickly; if in line, he will conform to the movements of the squadron on his right, unless there should be a particular order to regulate the general movements by some squadron on the left.

## § 2. GUIDES OF EVOLUTION.

The system of guides in the various departments of military exercise, gives to every species of military disposition and movement, many advantages which cannot be assured by any other means; that is to say, in the formation accuracy, in the direction certainty, in time precision, and among a variety of corps harmony and co-operation. The system of guides, also, gives to military bodies, composed partly or wholly of raw materials, means by which the want of discipline is in some measure supplied; for the guides of alignment and evolution being taken from disciplined troops, already expert, and judiciously distributed on the flanks of raw troops, with intelligent officers, can be brought into evolution, and much sooner acquire a due comprehension of their exercises than in any formal drills.

When the commander in chief wishes to place a column in line and display in any required manner, he will commence by determining on, and giving the *points of direction*, and placing guides at proper stations on that line which he proposes to take.

An adjutant or quarter master for a regiment; a brigade major for a brigade; an assistant adjutant general for a division, will be charged with acting as the principal guides, and take post on the given points; and when they have not been given, to receive instructions from the general, or chief of the staff, how to make the dispositions, and to fix with the other guides the line to be formed on.

When a line or column is to be put in motion, the colonel or commandant will give to the guides, placed on the right or left, the points to which each is to move; and these, taking with them each a sub-officer, to be prepared, in case of the march in line, to designate by them the right or left of the troop or squadron of alignment; and, in case of march in column, to point out in like manner to the guides on the right or left of the platoon, and make them take intermediate points, to be posted in all cases of the direction of the march.

In choosing points of direction, the following rules should be observed: Immoveable objects which are striking to the eye, distant, and calculated to fix exactly the position to be taken, must always be preferred; single and very prominent objects, such as a lofty and detached tree, a house, court-house, store, barn, or a mill, in preference to others.

The choice of intermediate points ought to be determined according to some one of the following principles :

1. That of directing a column in its line of march or evolution.
2. That of precisely marking the line of the front on which a column is to form, and the direction of the line, when it shall be formed.

In the first place, the points ought to be called points of prolongation or direction, in the march ; in the second, points of evolution, alignment, or formation, in the line.

In the first case, a point will be chosen, prolonged from any part of the line which is to move, from the right, centre, or left, and perpendicular to that point which is to determine the direction of the head of the column, or the point of the line.

In the second case, when having in view the formation of a line in a position distant from the column or columns, two projecting objects must be chosen, between which the line is to be formed.

In both cases, the intermediate points will be taken by one of the following methods :

Let the tree, A. be chosen as a point of direction : an officer of the staff, acting as principal guide, B. will receive his orders where to take post, and he will gallop to the new direction, accompanied by a sub-officer, C. whom he will place at some distance from him, B. who will face the principal guide ; if the sub-officer be not in the proper point of direction, the first guide, B. will make signs to him to incline to the right or left, until exactly in the direction. *Plate XLII. fig. 1.*

The direction being then determined, if the column is to be formed in line, an adjutant at D. will be sent to mark the point of the line to which the first sub-division of the column is to move, at D. ; this adjutant will fix himself in the line, the same as C and B. facing the guide, B.

The manner of placing the intermediate points between the two points already established, is as follows :

As soon as the colonel, or the commandant, has designated the two fixed points of the direction in which the line is to be formed, an officer of the staff, or an adjutant and two sub-officers, will determine the intermediate points.

Let C. a tree on the right, D. a tavern on the left, be the fixed extremes of a proposed alignment designated by the commandant ; the sub-officer of the right, is represented by A. and the one on the left, by B. ; A. remains in his position, while B. advances to the front, a platoon, distant on the left, and in rear of A. dressing on him and by the pivot C. ; the two sub-officers will then march forward, wheeling so that the point C. be the pivot of the wheeling ; the sub-officer, B. will always be in line with the point, C. and the sub-officer, A. ; this last guide will march, always looking towards B. to halt the moment he covers the pivot on the left, D. ; B. having always marched in line with the sub-officer A. and the point C. the intermediate points will be fixed.



During this movement, B. will always be subject to the movement of A. ; when arrived on the new line, they will face each other, so that if there should be any fault committed, they may immediately rectify it, always without making signs or speaking. Suppose that A. should perceive the point D. on his left. B. always obliged to remain on a line with A. the point C. will follow the movement of A. then covering the point D ; if he perceives the point D. on his right, he will rectify his position by the contrary movement.

An adjutant, F. will place himself at the same time on the point where the right or left of the regiment will be when in line.

The guides of formation, of troops and squadrons, correspond in duties with these ; on y that they are always contiguous to the bodies to which they belong, and never detached to a greater distance than double the length of the front of the section of the line to which they belong.

### § 3. DEFINITIONS OF MILITARY TERMS AND PRINCIPLES.

*Alignment.* This term is familiarly adopted in military language, and is used with advantage and perspicuity in describing the *direction* or *line* upon which a military body is drawn up ; a *rank* is formed on an alignment ; and when a squadron changes from one position to another, the guides of evolution take the extreme points between which the squadron is to form a new alignment, or *the points of sight* by which the squadron dresses. There are three modes of forming alignments, one by forming in the direction of some fixed objects ; another by *guides of evolution* ; the other by forming upon the right or left of a corps already occupying the alignment.

*Centre.* The centre is that point of the line or column, troop or squadron, which equally divides the extremities of the rank or column.

*Close column* of cavalry, is when the squadrons are ranged in succession behind each other, the ranks closed, but the squadrons at a wheeling distance.

*Open column* is when the troops or squadrons are placed in such order as to be more distant from each other than in the order of battle ; a horse length between ranks, counting from the croup of the front rank of horses to heads of the rear rank.

*Commands*, or words of command, are distinguished for mere instruction into four classes.

1. *Precaution*....as Attention.
2. *Preparation*....Take care to form column of squadrons.
3. *Direction*....Squadrons....right wheel.
4. *Execution*....March.

The words *march*, *halt*, *dress*....are all generally words of execution, though they are also denominated auxiliary words.

*Deployment* in file is moving from one or both flanks in any direction required, by files. A movement of this kind is practised when the nature of the ground and the position of the enemy admits ; by filing off from both flanks, the right from the right and wheel to the direction required ; the left flank filing off in the same manner in a corresponding direction, in order to arrive at a point where they may form again in any order required.

*Depth* signifies the line drawn from the front to the rear of any military body ; thus two ranks are two deep, three ranks three deep ; the depth of the column is the length of a line passing from the front to the rear. The depth of a troop in two ranks gives nine feet for each horse and nine

feet interval from croup to head, which makes twenty-seven feet, equal to the front of nine infantry files. The size of horses will make some difference in the extent both of depth and front; which it will be the duty of every officer to be perfectly acquainted with.

*Displaying by files.* This movement is performed by the two ranks at the same time, the horsemen of each flank making successively a wheel to the right or left to form column on the point designated, and then forming again in line by a movement in to the same order from which they broke off.

When a troop is to form upon the alignment of another troop, it will halt in the alignment, if the file closes parallel to the line of formation, and then advance to the alignment of the troop already formed.

*Distance.* The distance of files on horseback in close order of battle is, that the knees of the adjacent horsemen touch, or *boot top to boot top*; six inches is the ordinary parade distance of files. *Facing distance* is the distance of files in the manege, which is equal to a horse length apart. The word *order* is also applied to distance in this case.

*Division.* This word has been used in a particular sense in the British cavalry system; but it being also used in a more comprehensive and definite sense, ought to be rejected. Armies are formed into regiments, brigades, and divisions; and the term should be confined to that sense. In this work the word *platoon* is preferred to that of division, signifying a half troop; and half platoon for *subdivision*. Wherever the words division or subdivision occur in this work, they are not used in a technical sense but in a general sense.

*Drill.* This word answers to the meaning expressed by the word school.

*File.* A file consists of the mounted or dismounted men who stand behind each other in the ranks; thus the order of cavalry is two ranks; the man in the front rank and the man who covers him, in the rear rank, compose only one file; this is called a double file, when three ranks are formed, the files are triple. The man in the front rank is called the *file leader*, the man in the rear rank is called the *coverer* or *serre file*.

*Indian file,* is when cavalry or infantry move or form faced all in one direction, and each man behind another in succession, from first to last. Several troops may move at the same time parallel to each other in Indian files. In Indian file the rear rank man of the same file in troop always follows next after his file leader.

*Forming* is the act of taking any required order and forming in that order.

*Front.* The front is that point towards which a troop, squadron, or an army, face in the order of battle or column.

*Guides* are those who are employed in the movements to trace the perpendiculars of the centre and flanks, who are called *principal guides*; and those who guide the flank movements of companies, are called simply guides of alignment, or guides of troops, squadrons, or battalions. Each troop or squadron has a principal guide. The major of a regiment has the principal care of the selection and discipline of guides, but they are immediately subject to the order of the adjutant, who is himself a principal guide. When there are quarter masters of cavalry, they act as guides in evolutions of large bodies, and of the regiment, in conjunction with the adjutant. Subalterns act as guides in extensive movements....serjeants and skilful corporals in regimental movements. The guides on a large scale are collected in a squad by the adjutant, who, when the orders of movement are issued, detaches them to their respective points of duty. The station of principal guides is on the extreme of the moving point of every body, except the general direct movement, when their positions are in lines perpendicular to the alignment in front and in the rear of the centre. See § 2. of this chapter; and plate XLII.

*Interval* is the space between the squadrons of a regiment in line. The interval between the squadrons of a regiment will be equal to the front of eight files, that between regiments will be the front of a platoon. The interval will be estimated from the knee of the guide of the left, who is not counted in the ranks, to the knee of the guide on the right of the next troop, not counting officer or guide.

*Interval of evolution* is when the squadrons are equal to the front of the sections, troops, or squadrons moving in evolution.

The *wheeling interval* or *wheeling distance*, is a space equal to the front of the squadron without counting the guide.

*Manege* is the place in which the drills and management of the horse are taught; it is the school for the instruction of the horse and horseman.

The *manege*, a general term for the art of horsemanship.

*March.* The *direct march* is a march perpendicular to the front, or directly forward.

The *diagonal march* is when the rank makes a *half* or *quarter* wheel, of twenty or forty-five degrees from the line upon which the rank was before dressed.

The *oblique* or *line of science* is when each individual quarter faces his horse on the ground, without changing the line of the flank on its front; and each man moves obliquely in that manner, retaining the dressing of the rank, though faced from the actual front of the rank.

*Order.* This word is used in numerous ways, as 'the troop will come to order,' which means, that the troop not being in a correct position, will form into the customary order, that is at a horse length apart, covering well.

*Close order* is when the ranks approach to half a horse length or a yard apart.

*Order of battle* is the manner in which an army is formed for battle, or the disposition in which every kind of troops is posted for effect. The order of battle varies infinitely with the nature of the ground, and the nature and number of the troops which compose the army.

*Order of depth* is the number of which the files are composed, or of ranks in order of squadron; as two deep means two ranks; three deep three ranks.

*Paces.* The paces of a horse (French *allures*) are three, the *walk*, *trot*, and *gallop*; these paces have various modifications of celerity; whence the slower course is denominated the ordinary *pace*, *trot*, or *gallop*; and when greater speed is required, it is called the accelerated *pace*, *trot*, or *gallop*.

*Pace* is also a general term by which the action of *stepping forward* in the march is expressed; thus the military pace of the infantry is 24 inches. The term pace is variously used in military writings. Thus the geometrical pace is equal to one sixty thousandth part of a degree of the equator, or 6.102 feet American measure.

The military pace of the French infantry is 24 inches.

American 24 inches.

English 30 inches.

The French, when determining the paces of their cavalry, use the term *enetre*, which is about a *yard* of our measure.

The paces of horses of different sizes and forms are unequal, but an average of the paces of horses 14 hands and a half high may be taken as follows:

Walk.....2 feet 8 inches.....50 toises....100 yards....in a minute.

Trot.....3 feet 8 inches....10 toises....240 yards....in a minute.

Gal'op.....10 feet.....150 toises.....in a minute.

*Pivot.* A pivot simply is the file or guide upon which a wheel is made, and whose front only changes with the motion of the rest of the rank, while the ground is not moved from.



A *moveable pivot* is the denomination of that point of the rank which in a wheel moves on a lesser circle, while the other files in succession to the extreme move on a larger circle. See Diagram, page 100.

*Platoon* is one half of a troop, technically; the term is used in drill, without strictly requiring the presence of twenty-four files.

*Half platoon* is one fourth of a troop.

*Points of direction* are terms signifying the ground taken by the guides of evolution in front of flank, or by fixed objects, such as a tree, a house, a rock, which forms one extremity, and some other moveable or fixed point on the other extremity of a proposed alignment. See *plate XLII*.

*Intermediary points.* These may be also guides of evolution; for example, two fixed points being established for an alignment of four regiments; on the extremes; the guides which take positions between the extreme points, for the flanks of the central battalions to form upon, are the intermediary points.

*Rank* A rank is a number of men mounted or dismounted which stand side by side in a straight line; thus cavalry has an order of formation which is in *two ranks*, known by the distinction of the *front rank* and the *rear rank*; there is also in all troops another rank, called the supernumerary rank, composed of a certain number of subalterns and non-commissioned officers, some of whom act as guides of movement, and attend to the dressing and order in the rear.

*Rank* in the army is settled by the regulations of the 1st May, 1813.

*Ranks* is used in cavalry discipline, when the evolution does not admit of the complete files in the order of formation executing the movement in the primitive order; and in this it differs materially from the infantry. When a section of infantry wheels, the rear rank or ranks always follow their file leaders; in the cavalry, this takes place only when the number is over four files. Thus, when a wheel of cavalry is to be made in sections of four, the rear rank does not follow the track of the front rank, but wheels on its own flank. If it be required of cavalry therefore to wheel to the right with four men in front of the column, the movement is not made by wheeling four men of the rear rank following in the rear of four of the front, but by *ranks of four*, the four men of each rank wheeling so if it be required to move to the right of a squadron, with four in front, it is executed by wheeling two men of each rank to the right, which gives four men for the front of the column; a single wheel on the left places each rank in its proper order.

*Ranks of four.* The principle of formation in all military bodies should be even numbers; the lowest number for evolution in cavalry discipline is a front of four, in rank, or in rank and file. In infantry the facing to the right about may be performed by each man without discomposing the order of the ranks; but as a horse occupies three times the length of his breadth, that cannot be accomplished: the distribution of the troop into sections of four is to accomplish as nearly as may be the same effect; and all wheelings to the right or left about in the same order, is performed by *ranks of four*. The British execute it by ranks of three, but this offers no advantage, and some disadvantages. The objection to it is, that the distance of a horse length or open order will not admit more than three horses of the rear rank to wheel; but this is obviously a mistake, since the pivot of every wheeling body is by the rules of discipline to make at least a circuit of five yards on a simple wheel.

*Regiment in line*, is a regiment with the front of its squadrons in the same alignment.

*Regiment in open column*, is formed by its squadrons marching by sections or platoons or troops behind each other.

*Regiment in close column*, is formed of its sections, platoons, troops, or squadrons behind each other, with an interval between each of the parts of the column.

*Regiment in column of route*, is formed by its squadrons breaking into ranks of four or two.

*Regiment in inverse order*. A regiment formed in line in inverse order, has its first squadron on the left of the line, the last on the right, or if in column its left in front.

*Regiment formed*, is a regiment drawn up in column or on an alignment, or in ranks according to the established order.

*Section*. A section means any part of a body cut off from the rest, or a body cut or divided into several parts. Thus a troop composed of forty-eight files front, may be cut or divided into sections of any even and equal numbers; as into twelve sections of four; six sections of eight; four sections of twelve; three sections of sixteen; or two sections of twenty-four. When the word *section* is used in discipline, if the number of sections be not already told off in the troop or squadron, the number of files in the section must be named, and whether it be from left, centre, or right the sections are to move. See *ranks*. *Platoon*

*Squad* is the diminutive of *Escouade*, Fr. a part of a larger body

*Squadron*. (*Quadrum*, Latin.) A body of horsemen either divided into four parts or having four sides. The military number of a squadron in war is about two hundred men, which is composed of two troops, each troop divided into two platoons, giving four platoons to a squadron. The squadron is also divided into half squadrons, which signifies the same as troops; and the word is used often in a general sense, when it is said "he brought a large squadron into action," meaning a number of cavalry more than an ordinary squadron.

*Supernumerary rank*, is the rank of subalterns and non-commissioned officers who are placed in the rear of the rear rank, at a horse length distance, for various services.

*Troop*. A troop is the first completely organized body of the cavalry; as a *company* is of the infantry. It is improper to call any body of mounted men a company; men who speak military language always understand by the word company a body of foot soldiers, and never apply the term to horsemen. The *horse artillery* should be denominated by *troops*, when furnished with horses; thus it is said, some troops of light dragoons and light artillery....some companies of artillery, infantry, and riflemen.

*Troops*. This word in a particular sense signifies several bodies of horsemen, as six or eight troops; but in a general rhetorical sense, it is used to signify large military bodies of every description, and it is common to say, "a fine body of troops"...."the troops marched in good order"....meaning both cavalry and infantry, and is of the same signification as *army*.

*Wheeling* is when a section, troop, or squadron moves on one extremity of the rank and describes the arc of a circle, while the other extreme or flank either remains on the ground or does not move on so large a circle. Wheeling is performed by any required *even number*....as by sections of two, four, eight, twelve, sixteen, twenty, twenty-four....but never by any odd number of files.

*Wheeling by sections*, or breaking into sections, is when a change of front is commenced by the several sections of the same rank.

*Wing*. A wing is the right or left extremity of a corps in order of battle or in column; called by the French *l'aile*, the wing, and *le manche*, the sleeve, in allusion to the ancient *slashed sleeve*; they have also *demi-aile* and *demi-manche*, or half wings.

# Distribution of officers and sub-officers.

|                       | ON PARADE AND IN LINE.  |  | IN COLUMN.   |   | ECHELLEONS.   | ACTION.  |
|-----------------------|---|--|--|---|---|--|
|                       | Open order.   | Close order.   | Open order.  | Close order.  | Corps & Squadrons.  |  |
| Colonel.              | On parade of his regiment, in front of the centre of the position in front as he may think best adapted to command.   | Same position.   | If only one regiment, at any place he may select, if more than one, in front of his regiment two horse lengths from the captain in front.  | Same position.  | Same as in close order.   | When only one regiment, place discretionary; when more than one, on the right of any squadron he may select.   |
| Lieutenant Colonel.   | When the colonel is on parade in front of the centre of the two squadrons on the right, two horse lengths before the rank of officers, as first chief of squadron.  | In front of the interval of the two squadrons a horse length before the front rank.  | Right of the third squadron, dressed by the captain.   | Same.   | Same as in close order.   | On the right of the third squadron, if not selected by the colonel; on the right of any other after the colonel has selected.  |
| First Major.          | In front of the centre of the two squadrons on the left, dressing with the lieutenant colonel.  | In the relative position to the left squadrons dressed by the lieutenant colonel, and acting in turn as chief of squadron. | Right of the second squadron, dressed by the lieutenant colonel.   | Same.   | Same.   | Right of squadron, second if no selection.   |
| Second Major.         | In front of the right of the regiment, faced to the left, two horse lengths beyond the line of chiefs of squadrons, to regulate movements; or with the colonel as ordered.  | On the right as guide, and as in open order.   | Right of the fourth squadron, dressed by the colonel and major.  | Same.   | Same.   | Right of squadron, fourth if no selection.   |
| Adjutant.             | On the front of the left of the regiment, in a line with the major, and faced to the right; or with the colonel as ordered.   | Same as in open order.   | Right of the colonel, two horse lengths, as aid to the colonel, sergeant major in his rear.  | On the left flank right in front, on the right flank left in front.   | Pivot flank towards the centre, or opposite side to the colors. | With the colors.   |
| Captain.              | In front of the second file of the right of his troop, front rank, his place in the front rank filled by a sergeant.  | On the right of his troop, front rank, covered by a sergeant in the rear; the sergeant guide on his right two paces.       | Head of the column, leads in front of his troop; other troops on the right of the front rank of the first section; and this is his position in all cases, rank or column, close order. | Right of his troop.   | Same as in close order.   | Same as in column.   |
| First Lieutenant.     | In front of the second file of the second platoon or half troop, dressed with the captain.  | In rank on the right of the platoon or half troop, covered by a sergeant in the rear.                                      | On the right of his platoon, in like manner as the captain.  | Right of his platoon.   | Same.   | Same.  |
| Second Lieutenant.    | In front of the second file from the left of the troop, dressed by the captain and first lieutenant.  | In the supernumerary rank, distributed in the same relation as their position to the front in open order.                  | When the column consists of more than platoons or half troops, the supernumeraries take post on the right of one in the same relation as the positions in open order.                  | Same as in open order.  | Same.   | Same.  |
| Third Lieutenant.     | In a line with the captain and first lieutenant, half way between each.   | The same as second lieutenant.   | The same.  | Same.   | Same.   | Same.  |
| Cornet.               | When with colors, in the centre of the squadron, rank of officers, covered by the master of the sword in the rank on the right of the first lieutenant.   | With colors in the rank, another cornet on his right, covered in the rear rank by the masters of the sword.                | Colors in the centre of the squadron, in the rear of the first troop, with the masters of the sword as guards.   | On the wheeling flank of the column, near the centre of the squadron.   | Same.   | Same.  |
| Masters of the sword. | Who do not bear colors, take the places of the junior officers, or form in the rank of supernumeraries in the rear of their troop, a horse length distance.   | Without colors, supernumerary.   | Colors in the centre of the squadron; supernumerary cornets without section take post in the rear of the squadron or troop.  | On the wheeling flank with the guard.   | As in close column.   | In the centre of the squadron, sustained by the masters of the sword and select guard of sergeants and corporals or sergeants major.                                   |
| Quarter master.       | When with troop only in the supernumerary rank. When in squadron, covering the cornet who carries the colors, and in his place in the front rank. These officers will on all occasions, form part of the guard of the colors, in whatever order is on inspection, the squadron at open order, both dress with the front rank in the interval. | With the colors, as its guard and supporters.  | With the colors.   | With colors in the centre of the squadron.  | With colors on the wheeling flank of the squadron.              | With the colors as guard.  |
| Sergeant Major.       | In troop, on the left of the front rank two paces; in squadron the same position.   | Rear of the troop, unless employed as a guide of evolution.  | Rear of the troop, unless employed as a guide of evolution.  | Rear of the troop, unless acting as guide.  | Rear of the troop, unless acting as guide.                      | If no transport duty or care of waggon, or hospital or staff duties, form with the guard of colors or act as guide.  |
| Sergeant Major.       | When not otherwise ordered, his position is in the rear of the troops on the right of the supernumerary rank; or on the rear of the colonel two horse lengths, of accompanying the major or adjutant to regulate dressing.  | With the adjutant, and in his rear.  | With the adjutant, or regulating movements.  | Pivot flank centre squadron, regulating guides of evolution.  | Same as close column.   | Rear of the centre attending to the care of ammunition, and directing non-commissioned under the adjutant.   |
| Sergeants.            | On the right of troops and platoons covering the captain and lieutenant in the rear rank; the supernumeraries in the covering rank at equal distance from each other.   | Same as in open order.   | As in line.  | Same as in line, unless guides, then on the flanks assigned to them; if none assigned, on the left of the column. | Same as close column.   | Same as in line, except those of the covering rank or supernumerary, who attend to duties in the rear of the troop under direction of the adjutant and sergeant major. |
| Corporals.            | On the right of the troop, half troop, or platoon, quarter troop or half platoon; and constantly on the pivots or flanks of sections of the troop.  | Same as in open order.   | As in line.  | Same as in line, unless guides, then on the flanks assigned to them; if none assigned, on the left of the column. | Same as close column.   | Same as in line.   |
| Guides.               | Posted on the right and left of troops or squadrons; those of the right always on the right of the front; those of the left on the left of the front rank, a horse length distant.  | Same as in open order.   | On the side of the column assigned; if no side assigned, on the left.  | On the side of the column assigned, if none assigned on the left.   | On the sides assigned, or left.                                 | In supernumerary rank.   |
| Trumpeters.           | On the right, four horse lengths, dressed by the front rank.  | In the rear of the first troop or squadron.  | In front of the squadron two horse lengths before the chief of the squadron.   | In the rear of the colors.  | In the rear of the colors.                                      | Rear of the centre with adjutant.  |
| Fabrics.              | On the right of trumpeters.   | In the rear.   | Rear of the squadron.  | Rear of the trumpeters.   | Rear of the trumpeters.   | Under direction of the adjutant.   |













